

ACORN

28, (29), (20), (16), (17), Walsall Road, Chapel Green, (Willenhall Green), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Manchester Brewery Co. Ltd.
Frank Myatt Ltd.
Ansell's Ltd. [1946]
Don Concannon (acquired in 1985)

LICENSEES

Maria Hartill [1833] – [1842]
Josiah Hartill [1845]
Thomas Jones [] – **1849**;
David Smith (**1849** – [1850])
Thomas Webb [] – **1850**;
William Hartill (**1850** – **1866**);
Jane Ravenscroft (**1866** – [])
William Hartill [1870]
Josiah Hartill [1871] – [1872]
Edward Allen [1873] – **1875**;
George Parker (**1875**);
Edmund Parker (1875 – [])
Peter Latham [] – **1877**;
Edward Parker (**1877** – [])
John O'Grady [1881]
John Conway (**1882** – [])
Maria Hartill (**1885** – [])
Terence Wren [1891] – [1892]
John Jones [1896]
Albert H Sheppard [1901] – [1904]
Charles Hodge [1908] – [1912]
Harry Richmond Cutler [1916]
William Amos [1921]
Ernest Claridge [1932]
Mrs. Laura Gwendoline Dorsett [1940]
J S Ashfield [1983]
Don Concannon (**1985** – [1988])

NOTES

16, Walsall Road [1881], [1892], [1896], [1901], [1904], [1908]
17, Walsall Road [1891]
29, Walsall Road [1912], [1921], [1932], [1940], [1993], [2001], [2003], [2005]
20, Walsall Road [1916]
28, Walsall Road [1990], [1996], [1997], [1998]

ACORN HOTEL [1911]

Maria Hartill, retail brewer, Chapel Green [1833]
Maria Hartill, retailer of beer, Chapel Green [1835]

1841 Census

Walsall Road

[1] *Maria Hartill* (50), publican, born Staffordshire;
[2] Samuel Davis (35), gardner, born Staffordshire;
[3] Caroline Oakley (14), female servant, born Staffordshire:

[Staffordshire Advertiser 25/2/1843](#)

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....
On Tuesday, the 14th instant, at the ACORN INN, Willenhall, on the body of Joseph Wolley; verdict, Died from Excessive Drinking.”

Maria Hartill died in the 3rd quarter of 1843, aged 59. She was buried, at St. Giles' Church, in August.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1843 - Advert

“John Mason respectfully announces that he is instructed by the administrator of the late Miss *Maria Hartill* to Sell by Auction, on Monday and Tuesday, the 4th and 5th days of September next, upon the premises, at the ACORN INN, Walsall Road, Willenhall, all the excellent and substantial Household Furniture, and other effects, consisting of oak dining table, mahogany card table, ladies mahogany work table, sofa, Windsor and ash chairs, excellent clock in oak case, screens, oak post bedsteads, in chintz clothing, prime feather beds, bolsters, and pillows, mahogany chests of drawers, painted wash stands, dressing tables, chamber chairs, a useful assortment of kitchen utensils, knives and forks, two and a half pockets of good Sussex hops, seventeen bags of prime malt, four-pull beer machine, malt mill, &c.

The Brewing Vessels include one twenty bushel mash tub, five large coolers, gathering and other tubs, twenty-two iron-bound ale barrels, from sixteen to one hundred gallons, one hundred gallon copper furnace, forty gallon iron boiler, and small boiler, the whole of which are remarkably sound and clean.

The Farming Stock comprises three first-rate in-calf cows, heifer and calf, grey pony, two fine store pigs, rick of barley, growth of 1842, a rick of well got hay, about fifteen tons, rick of clover, a quantity of old hay, lot of manure, two and a half acres of wheat, half an acre of potatoes, about fourteen acres of aftermath and grazing.

Dead Stock. One four and a half inch iron arm cart, with side boards and gearing, ladder, hay forks, rakes, mangers, and other effects, full particulars of which are described in catalogues, and may be had at the place of sale, and at the office of the auctioneer, Walsall Street, Willenhall.

In consequence of the numerous lots the sale will commence at half-past ten o'clock in the morning of each day.”

Josiah Hartill died in 1848, aged 58. He was buried on December 23rd, at St. Giles' Church.

Birmingham Journal 14/4/1849

“On Monday last a special sessions for the transfer of innkeeper's licenses.....
That of the ACORN, Willenhall, from Mr. *Thomas Jones*, to Mr. *David Smith*, of Stretton.”

David Smith, retailer of beer, Walsall Road. [1850]

William Hartill = William Harthill = William Hartil

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/8/1850

“Transfer of Victuallers' Licenses. Monday last being the day appointed for the transfer of licenses in the division of Seisdon North, the county Magistrates granted the following transfers that of *Thomas Webb*, of the ACORN, Willenhall, to *William Hartil*, cowkeeper.”

Josiah Hartill was born in the 1st quarter of 1851.

1851 Census

Walsall Road

- [1] *William Hartill* (35), victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Maryann Hartill* (31), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *William Hartill* (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Harriet Hartill* (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Sarah Hartill* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Josiah Hartill* (2 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Richard Salt* (24), servant, hossler, born Elford, Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/12/1856

“On Wednesday last, T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the ACORN INN, Willenhall, on the body of Joseph Mellows, an engineer, about forty-two years of age. The deceased was employed at a stone pit at Darlaston Green, the property of Messrs. Bagnall, and on the previous Saturday evening, whilst he was attempting to lift a new bucket for a pump out of the skip, which was suspended in the shaft, to hand to a man who was repairing the pump, he overbalanced himself and fell to the bottom of the pit, a distance of about nine or ten yards. He was frightfully cut about the head, and died immediately. The deceased was asked to get out of the skip on to a small platform, but did not do so. His widow stated that a surgeon who had attended him had cautioned him to be careful what he did, as he was disposed to apoplexy. She expressed a belief that he was seized with a fit when he fell out of the skip. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/8/1859

“*William Hartill*, landlord of the ACORN INN, was fined 20s and costs for allowing gaming in his house on the 12th ultimo.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting for the renewal of Victuallers’ licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for licenses, for the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. Hayes applied for a license for the THREE TUNS beerhouse, King Street, Willenhall, kept by Thomas Williams Mr. Underhill opposed for Mrs. Perks, of the QUEENS ARMS INN, and Mr. *Hartill*, of the ACORN INN, and contended that the applicant’s house being situate in a street at the upper end of which there was no outlet, and there being already a number of licensed houses in the immediate neighbourhood no additional accommodation was required The license was granted.

Mr. Parkes applied for a license for the THREE TUNS, Walsall Road, Willenhall, kept by Meshach Rowley. Mr. Hayes made a similar application on behalf of Samuel Taylor, the landlord of the MILL STREET TAVERN, Mill Street, Willenhall. Mr. H. Underhill opposed for Mr. Perks, of the QUEENS ARMS, and Mr. *Hartill*, of the ACORN. Both applications were refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/9/1860

“On Saturday afternoon an inquest was held at the ACORN public house, Willenhall, on the body of Benjamin Legge, a miner, who died on the previous day from burns sustained by an explosion of sulphurous air, on the 4th inst, in a pit in Herberts Park Colliery, Darlaston, belonging to Mr. David Jones. A scaffold had been placed across the shaft, eighteen yards from the bottom, that the bottom coal might be got. Deceased, with two other men, one of whom was named Smith, and lives at Darlaston, went down to work on the morning in question, and began to work after William Hartshouse, the butty, had examined the place with his safety lamp, and found no sulphur. Shortly afterwards, however, an explosion happened, severely burning the deceased and Smith. The explosion blew off the scaffold, and deceased was precipitated into the ‘sump’ or water well at the bottom of the shaft. He was got out by William Parton, a sinker, who descended the shaft for this purpose. Before his death he said that shortly after his candle was lighted he saw the sulphur playing round it, and immediately afterwards the explosion happened. Parton deposed that he had never previously known sulphur to be in the pit, but stated that he had since ascertained that it collected in the sump. Neither this witness nor Hartshorne, the butty, could account for the accident on any other supposition than that the snuff of a candle had dropped through the scaffold into the sump where the sulphur was, and Smith had said that a candle was lighted after the butty went up. Hartshorne, in reply to the Coroner, said he had seen Smith that morning at Darlaston, and did not think he could recover. Notice had been given to the Government Inspector. There was no stated allowance made at this colliery to the widows of deceased workmen, but a subscription would be made towards the expenses of the deceased’s interment. The Coroner said that at most collieries it was now usual to allow the widows 6s a week for six months, and that was quite little enough. After ascertaining from deceased’s widow that she had had eleven children, and that five, the youngest of whom was only six months old, were now dependent upon her, the Coroner desired the butty to make known the woman’s destitute condition to Mr. Jones. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1861 Census

Walsall Road – ACORN INN

- [1] *William Hartill* (44), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Hartill* (40), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *William Hartill* (17), son, rim lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Sarah Hartill* (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Josiah Hartill* (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Maria Hartill* (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Mary Hartill* (6), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Charles Hartill* (3), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Ellen Hartill* (4 months), daughter, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

“Mr. Waterhouse made an application on behalf of Mr. *Mesach Rowley*, for a license to a house situated on the Willenhall and Walsall turnpike road, in the outskirts of Willenhall, and in a district which, he said, had lately sprung up. The nearest public houses were the QUEENS ARMS, which was about 143 yards distant, and the ACORN, which lay 156 yards away from his client’s house. Thirty one dwellings had been erected since last year, and there was a population of 1,100 in the locality. The owners of the property surrounding the house had signed the applicant’s certificate, and the case he (Mr. Waterhouse) considered a strong one in Mr. *Rowley*’s favour.

Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of the occupiers of the ACORN and the QUEENS ARMS, and said that within a distance of 350 yards of Mr. *Rowley*’s house there were three public houses, and he thought it would require a good deal to persuade the Magistrates that they were not sufficient to meet the wants of the district.

The Bench refused the application.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“At the Police Court, last Monday, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq., *William Hartill*, landlord of the ACORN INN, Walsall Road, was summoned for assaulting police-constable Smith. Mr. J. E. Underhill appeared in defence. On the morning of the previous Tuesday the defendant was beating his wife, and Smith was sent for to stop him. On the officer’s arrival he found that the more serious part of the disturbance – the assault – had passed over, and therefore he did not interfere. Defendant, however, was so annoyed at his presence that he abused him, threatened him, and pushed him out of the house. The magistrates inflicted a penalty of 10s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/2/1866

“On Monday, at the Police Court, *William Harthill*, landlord of the ACORN public house, Walsall Road, appeared before the Bench to answer a charge of violently assaulting Police-constable Rumney, in the execution of his duty. Mr. Travis prosecuted, and Mr. Cresswell defended. It appeared that late on the previous Thursday night the officer found the defendant and two or three other men, all drunk, in Stafford Street, quarrelling as to who should have the control of driving of a horse and trap, which they had with them. Finding that the vehicle was a borrowed one, and that the real owner was not present and seeing further that defendant and his friends were not in a fit state to be entrusted with the management of it, Rumney decided to take the horse and trap under his own care, and put it in a place of safety. To this proposal *Harthill* strongly objected, and being in the cart commenced pulling at the reins with all his might. To settle the matter Rumney got into the cart himself and pulled *Harthill* out, but the latter resenting this kind of treatment rushed at the officer, and struck and kicked him very violently. Police-constable Thompson came up at this juncture, and with his assistance *Harthill* was secured, and together with the horse and trap taken to the police station. The Bench fined him £2 and costs.

Patrick Kelly for being drunk and assaulting the police was sent to gaol for three weeks.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/10/1866

“*William Hartill*, keeper of the ACORN INN, Walsall Road, was summoned at the Police Court, on Monday, for leaving his house open for the sale of liquor during prohibited hours. Police-constable Plant stated that whilst on his beat early on Monday morning he heard a noise in the defendant’s house; about half-past one o’clock he entered it, with another police-officer, and found four men and two women inside, who were all intoxicated. The defendant said he had always understood that he was allowed to open his house as early as he liked on Monday morning; but the Magistrates informed him that if he had examined his license he would have seen the hours there stipulated during which the public houses must be closed. He was liable to a penalty of £5, but as he appeared to have had an impression on his mind that he was not committing an offence against the law he would be fined 5s only and costs.”

1871 Census

Walsall Road

- [1] *Josiah Hartill* (21), unmarried, cabinet lock smith, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Hartill* (52), mother, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ellen Hartill* (10), daughter, born Willenhall:

Evening Express 26/2/1881 - Advert

“To be Sold, a large single and double sided Press.
Apply, ACORN INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall.”

1881 Census

16, Walsall Road – ACORN INN

- [1] *John O’Grady* (28), publican, born Roscommon, Ireland;
- [2] *Agnes O’Grady* (31), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Joseph P. O’Grady* (4), son, born Newcastle, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Mary H. O’Grady* (6), daughter, scholar, born Newcastle, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Madeline O’Grady* (1), daughter, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

17, Walsall Road

- [1] *Terence Wren* (29), public house manager, born Ireland:

1901 Census

16, Walsall Road – ACORN HOTEL

- [1] *Albert H. Sheppard* (26), public house manager, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Eleanor A. Sheppard* (22), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Albert H. Sheppard* (1), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Susan Vincent* (17), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

Walsall Road – ACORN HOTEL

- [1] *Charles Hodge* (63), publican, born Devonport, Devonshire;
- [2] *Selena Hodge* (60), wife, married 42 years, assisting in the business, born Devonport, Devonshire;
- [3] *Mary Annie Bowen* (19), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

A team from here won the Willenhall (Ansells) Crib League in 1946.

Don Concannon was married to Pearl.

[2012]

Closed [2013], [2016]

ALBION

50, (28), (9), Brick Kiln Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Perry [1856] – **1861**);
William Clempson (**1861**);
George Perry (**1861** – []
William Rounds [1869] – **1873**);
William Lavender (**1873** – []
Samuel Higgs [1881]
Thomas Henry Morgan (**1882** – [1896]
Isaac Aston [1901] – [1907]

NOTES

9, Brick Kiln Street [1861]
28, Brickkiln Street [1871]
50, Brick Kiln Street [1881]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1856

“Applications for new licenses. There were fourteen applications altogether for licenses to sell spirits – all from beershop keepers – only four of which were granted by the Magistrates.

Mr. Hayes applied for *George Perry*, Brickkiln Street, Portobello.

Mr. Underhill took a preliminary objection to the terms of the notice, which was overruled by the Bench.

Mr. Hayes stated that the house had been built for the purpose of an inn, and was commodious and well-appointed. He handed in the customary certificate, and said that no complaint had been made against applicant as a beershop keeper.

Mr. Underhill said that year after year this application had been made, and refused.

This application was adjourned, in order to give the Magistrates an opportunity of inspecting the district.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/2/1861

“At a Special Session, held at the County Police Court, in this town, on Monday last, present H. Hill and W. Tarrant, Esqs., the following licences were transferred.

From *George Perry*, of the ALBION INN, Portobello, Willenhall, to *William Clempson*, late of Codsall Wood.”

1861 Census

9, Brick Kiln Street (next door to the New Connexion Wesleyan Chapel)

- [1] *William Clempson* (38), victualler, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] Ann Clempson (38), wife, born Chirbury, Shropshire;
- [3] William Jukes (10), nephew, scholar, born Kidsgrove, Potteries;
- [4] Georgiana Breeg (6), niece, scholar, born Maidstone, Kent;
- [5] Mary Johnson (19), general servant, born Bilston:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/10/1861

“At a Special Sessions, held at the County Magistrates’ Offices in Bilston-street, in this borough, on Monday last, the following license transfers took place.

From *William Clempson*, late of Portobello, to *George Perry*, of the same place, miner.”

William Rounds = William Round

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/12/1869

“*William Round*, landlord of the ALBION INN, Portobello, was charged with permitting disorderly conduct in his house on the 7th inst. Two women, named Letitia Ravenscroft and Mary Vaughan, were the principal witnesses, but the summons had been taken out at the instance of Inspector Garson. The evidence disclosed a scene of low life in Portobello. Ravenscroft went, it seems, to the tavern to fetch a butty collier who was drinking there, and with whom she lived as his wife. While there she met with a woman named Ferguson, and the two began quarrelling. Ferguson’s husband took up the matter in his wife’s behalf, and dealt a blow at Ravenscroft, which tore an ear-ring from her ear. A general melee followed, during which the table was completely overturned. The landlord did not interfere, but the landlady vainly remonstrated with the brawlers. The Bench inflicted a fine of 20s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/3/1870

“*William Round*, landlord of the ALBION INN, Portobello, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house on Monday, the 14th instant. Police-constable Beards gave evidence in support of the information, and stated that on his visiting the house at one o’clock he found fifteen men there drunk, two of whom were preparing to fight. Mr. Cresswell, who defended, called six witnesses, all of whom contradicted the policeman’s evidence, and swore that there was not the slightest disorder in the defendant’s house during the evening mentioned.

Mr. Fisher, addressing defendant, said: There is just a doubt in this matter, *Round*, and you will get the benefit of it. I must however say, that I am really persuaded, with Mr. Gough, that there was much ground for the charge, but we must be guided by the weight of evidence which is on your side. Unless, however, you are much more particular, your license will be short-lived indeed. (Applause in court, which was immediately suppressed.)”

1871 Census

28, Brickkiln Street

- [1] *William Rounds* (43), coal miner and licensed victualler, born Radley, Shropshire;
- [2] Elen Rounds (30), wife, born Liverpool;
- [3] Sarah A. Rounds (19), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] John Rounds (14), son, born Willenhall:

1881 Census

50, Brick Kiln Street, Portobello – ALBION INN

- [1] *Samuel Higgs* (22), publican, born Bilston;
- [2] Eliza Higgs (25), wife, born Bilston:

Evening Star 17/4/1882

“Ann Lewis, James Smith, James Lewis, and William Smith and William Davis were charged with beating William Horton. On Monday last both the complainant and the defendants were drinking at the ALBION INN, Brick Kiln Street, Portobello.

Ann Lewis lost her purse, charged Horton with stealing it, and when he said he had not she struck him, blackening his eye. The landlord turned all of them out of the house, when it was alleged that they beat and kicked the complainant. Witnesses called spoke as to the woman, Lewis, striking complainant, and as there was no corroborative evidence as to the others assaulting Horton, the magistrates dismissed the charges against them.

Ann Lewis was fined 10s and costs.

Mr. John Clark defended.”

1891 Census

Brick Kiln Street

- [1] *Thomas H. Morgan* (36), widower, baker and licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] John Morgan (10), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Thomas H. Morgan (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Sarah Elizabeth Morgan (4), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Margaret Ann Donnelly (20), domestic servant, born Wolverton, Northamptonshire;
- [6] Louisa Willetts (16), domestic servant, born Wolverton, Northamptonshire:

Thomas Henry Morgan married Margaret Ann Donnelly in the 3rd quarter of 1892.

Thomas Henry Morgan died in the 3rd quarter of 1897.

Isaac Aston married Margaret Morgan in the 3rd quarter of 1899.

1901 Census

50, Brick Kiln Street – ALBION INN

- [1] *Isaac Aston* (37), licensed victualler, born Portobello;
- [2] Margaret Aston (30), wife, born Portobello;
- [3] Thomas Morgan (17), stepson, carpenter’s labourer, born Portobello;
- [4] Horace Morgan (7), stepson, born Portobello;
- [5] Elizabeth Morgan (13), stepdaughter, born Portobello;

[6] Nellie Aston (1), daughter, born Portobello;
[7] Alice Richards (20), general servant, born Portobello:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/2/1907

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Seisdon division of the county were held on Monday. The Chairman said there were in the division 284 licensed houses, which gave one for every 196 inhabitants. If they calculated a family as consisting of five persons, it really meant that for every 40 men there was one public house. That there were too many public houses he did not think there were two opinions, and the difficulty which licensed persons had to make an honest living was apparent when he stated that last year one in every five of the licensed holders applied for transfers. The consideration of the renewals of licences that had been adjourned was taken, and, with the exception of five were renewed. These five were.....

the ALBION INN, Portobello.....

After taking evidence, the magistrates adjourned the consideration of all the cases.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1907

“County Licensing Compensation Authority.

The principal meeting of the County Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1904, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford on Tuesday.....

ALBION, Brickkiln Street, Portobello, Willenhall, full license, *Isaac Aston*. Renewal refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/7/1907

“A supplemental meeting of the County Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Wednesday and Thursday, to consider the amount of compensation to be awarded in the case of licenses the renewal of which was refused at the principal meeting.....

ALBION, Brickkiln Street, Portobello (owner Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Limited), £1,150.”

[1908]

Closed

ALBION

Cheapside, (+9, (14), Cross Street), (~~Lower Lichfield Street~~), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry Weirland Greader [1845] – [1851]

William Henry Greader [1860] – [1863]

Henry Weirland Greader [1868] – 1870]

Richard Rutter [1862] – [1863]

~~John Wedge [1864]~~

Jeremiah Evans [1872] – **1873**);

Joseph Banks (**1873** – []

Enoch Wedge [1874]

Joseph Banks [1878]

Catherine Banks [] – **1881**);

Daniel Offley (**1881** – []

John Smith (**1882** – []

Clara Margaret Walters [1887]

Job Clark [1891] – [1892]

Mrs. Maria Clark [1896] – [1901]

Frederick William Minors ~~[1901]~~ – [1916]

Mrs. Harriet Minors [1921]

NOTES

Cross Street [1862]

Lichfield Street [1863]

14, Cross Street [1879], [1881], [1891], [1901]

~~Lower Lichfield Street [1901]~~

~~19, Cross Street [1911]~~

Cheapside [1916], [1921]

Henry Weirland Greader = Henry William Greader = Henry Greaver

Henry Weirland Greader married Mary in 1840.

Henry Weirland Greader was also a watch and clock maker. [1845], [1849], [1851]

He was also described as a watchmaker and auctioneer.

1851 Census

Cross Street

[1] *Henry Greader* (37), auctioneer, born Didmorton, Gloucestershire;

[2] *Mary Greader* (35), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *Mary Trubshaw* (19), house servant, born Cannock:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/7/1858

“On Monday and yesterday (Tuesday), the members of the following societies partook of their annual feasts at the inns at Willenhall or Portobello, where they respectively hold their meetings, namely the Wolverhampton Loyal Reformed Order of Oddfellows, at the ALBION INN.”

Henry Weirland Greader was described as an auctioneer and horse dealer. [1861]

1861 Census

Cross Street

[1] *Henry Greader* (47), auctioneer and publican, born Didmorton, Gloucestershire;

[2] *Mary Greader* (44), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *Susan Read* (16), house servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1863

“At a special meeting of the Magistrates, a number of tradesmen of the Willenhall township were summoned by Mr. Tollet, the inspector of weights and measures for district C, or South Staffordshire, for having in their possession short weights and measures, of various descriptions. The cases were the result of a visit made to the various shops and public houses, on the 15th of February last.....

H. W. Greader, licensed victualler, Cross Street, Willenhall, nine short measures, fined 45s and costs, in all 58s.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

“At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division, Seisdon North, held yesterday.....

The license of the ALBION, kept by *Richard Rutter*, Lichfield Street, Willenhall, was suspended until the adjourned licensing day.

There were two convictions recorded against him in the year 1862, when he was fined 10s and 15s.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“County Licensing Meeting, in Wolverhampton.

A special Petty Sessions, for the purpose of renewing and the granting of licenses to public-houses within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, was held at the Police Court, in Bilston Street, on Thursday.....

The following is the list of those who had been reported and fined during the past year for offences against their licenses.....

Richard Rutter, of the ALBION INN, Lichfield Street, Willenhall.....

They were now, with one exception, cautioned as to their future conduct, and their licenses were then renewed. The exception was that of *Richard Rutter*, of the ALBION INN, Willenhall, who had been fined twice, and whose license was now suspended until the adjourned meeting on the 7th September next.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/9/1863

“Court held for the consideration of the adjourned licenses. The following were renewed.....

Richard Rutter, CROWN, Willenhall, who was cautioned on account of a previous conviction, and promised not to offend again.”

Henry Weirland Greader was described as an auctioneer [1868], [1870]

He was a founder member of Willenhall’s Local Board Of Health.

He died in the 1st quarter of 1871, aged 57.

Birmingham Daily Post 1/11/1871

“Yesterday morning, about one o’clock, a key stamper, of The Dale, Willenhall, named George Turner, aged 20, was stabbed by a locksmith of about twice Turner’s age, named James Chadwick, whose home is in Church Street. A quarrel had taken place

between Chadwick, a man named Burke, and Yorke, Chadwick's brother-in-law, in the bagatelle room of the ALBION INN, Cross Street. Yorke ran into the kitchen, where Turner was drinking with several other men, and addressing Turner, said, 'I want you, for Jenny has been on with me.' Turner responding, went with Yorke to the bagatelle room, and the quarrel was resumed. A fight took place between Burke and Chadwick. Turner interposed, and called Chadwick 'a nasty man,' thus adding to the confusion. The landlord could not restore order; and presently the gas was turned off. In the darkness, Turner got between Burke and Chadwick in his efforts to separate them. Immediately on the relighting of the gas, Turner saw Chadwick with an open white-hafted pocket knife in his hand; and in another moment found that he was stabbed. Calling out that he had been stabbed, Turner fell on the floor; Chadwick was secured, and gave up the weapon. He was the arrested by Police-constable Bromley, and Mr. William Hartill, surgeon, was called in. By direction of Mr. Hartill, the sufferer was taken home, the surgeon expressing himself as concerned for the issue. The knife had penetrated between the ninth and tenth ribs, and it is not yet certain that the abdomen has not been pierced."

London Gazette 21/1/1879

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Joseph Banks*, of the ALBION INN, No.14, Cross-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. John Clark, Solicitor, No.4, New-road, Willenhall aforesaid, on the 31st day of January, 1879, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 16th day of January, 1879.

John Clark, 4, New-road, Willenhall, Solicitor for the said *Joseph Banks*."

1881 Census

14, Cross Street

- [1] *Catherine Banks* (39), widow, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Florence L. Banks (17), daughter, dressmaker, born Willenhall;
- [3] Harry W. Banks (16), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Kate Banks (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Clara Banks (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Rowland A. Banks (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Joseph Banks (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] Polly Banks (2), daughter, born Willenhall:

Daniel Offley was also an ironworker. [1881]

Catherine Banks died in the 2nd quarter of 1886, aged 43.

Birmingham Daily Post 8/3/1887

"*Clara Margaret Walters*, ALBION INN, Cross Street, was yesterday charged, at the Police Court, with supplying intoxicants during prohibited hours. Mr. R. Tildesley defended.

Inspector Cook deposed that he found, at midnight on Wednesday, several men and women concealed on the premises. Three men were discovered lying together in a bed. From the sounds that he heard he believed that the men had been collected in the back of the house, and had retreated to the bed room on the approach of the police. Police-constable Wood deposed that he saw, upon entering the house, three men running away upstairs.

For the defence, it was contended that no drink was consumed on the premises after eleven o'clock, and that there had consequently been no infringement of the Licensing Act. The men had acted very foolishly in attempting to evade the notice of the police, and in doing so they had constituted the only suspicious element in the case. Mr. Tildesley called the men found upon the premises, who severally gave evidence to the effect that they had been asked to stay to supper in the house, and that they had no drink after closing time.

The Bench declined to accept this testimony as trustworthy, and fined the defendant £5 and costs.

On the application of Mr. Tildesley it was decided not to endorse the license."

1891 Census

14, Cross Street

- [1] *Job Clark* (53), publican and joiner, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Maria Clark* (57), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] Sarah Buttler (19), general servant, born Darlaston:

Job Clark was also a carpenter. [1892]

Birmingham Daily Post 3/3/1894

"A meeting of the executive council of the National Amalgamated Society of Lock, Latch, and Key Smiths, was held at the ALBION INN, Cross Street, Willenhall, on Thursday evening. The recent correspondence between Messrs. Vaughan Brothers and the

Admiralty respecting the Government enquiry into alleged sweating in the lock trade formed part of the business, and a lengthy resolution on the matter was adopted, stating that the council denounced in the strongest terms possible the idea that any political or party interest could be brought to bear upon the permanent staff of the Admiralty. The council was also of opinion that the society should stand upon the finding of the Admiralty after hearing both sides of the case, and that if Messrs. Vaughan Brothers were dissatisfied with the judgement of the Admiralty their proper course was to get some friend to ask a question in the House of Commons.”

1901 Census

14, Cross Street – ALBION INN

- [1] *Maria Clark* (67), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Darlaston;
- [2] *Ada A. Butler* (37), daughter, widow, assistant to keeper, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Elsie Butler* (8), granddaughter, born Darlaston;
- [4] *Emily Fisher* (16), general servant, born Willenhall:

Frederick William Minors = Frederick William Miners
He was born on 19th March 1865, the son of John and Harriet.

~~1901 Census~~

~~Lower Lichfield Street~~

- ~~[1] *Frederick William Minors* (36), publican, born Willenhall;~~
- ~~[2] *Harriet Minors* (36), wife, born Willenhall;~~
- ~~[3] *Frederick William Minors* (11), son, schoolboy, born Willenhall;~~
- ~~[4] *Frank Minors* (10 months), son, born Willenhall;~~
- ~~[5] *Annie Bird* (24), domestic servant, born Willenhall;~~
- ~~[6] *Charles Bird* (9), visitor, schoolboy, born Willenhall;~~
- ~~[This was included because the names matched what was above.]~~

1911 Census

19, Cross Street

- [1] *Frederick William Minors* (46), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Harriett Minors* (46), wife, married 22 years, assisting in business, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Frederick William Minors* (21), son, butcher, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Frank Victor Minors* (10), son, school, born Willenhall:

Frederick William Minors – see also CROWN.
He died c.1920.

ALBION

The Crescent, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1908]

ALBION

105, (6), Union Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Atkinsons Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Wolverson [1845] – [1850]
George Edwards [1851]
Mrs. Evans [1856]
Edward Wood [] – **1857**;
Joseph Partridge (**1857** – [1861])
John Webb* [1864]
John Wedge* [1864] – [1866]
Michael Gallagher [1868] – [1876]
George Fortnam [1881] – [1901]
John Henry Fortnam [1904]
Mrs. Sarah A Salloway [1908]
Arthur Fowler [1911]
Mrs. Mary Jane Fowler [1912]
Mrs. Mary Jane Walker [1916] – [1921]
John Moran [] – **1928**;
Moses Alexander Evan Lane (**1928** – **1929**)
Thomas W Holder [1932]
George A A Hopkins [1940]

NOTES

6, Union Street [1871]
105, Union Street [1881], [1891], [1901], [1932], [1940]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/10/1840 - Advert

“To Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall.
The above premises are well calculated for a butcher or manufacturer requiring extensive shopping and outbuilding.
For rent and other particulars apply to Mr. Thomas Gibbons, accountant, Wolverhampton.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/12/1856 - Advert

“Mr. H. W. Greaser is instructed by the representatives of the late Mr. John Neve to Sell by Auction, at the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, on Friday, the 19th day of December, 1856, at six o’clock in the afternoon subject to conditions then to be produced.....

Lot 3. All that excellent old-licensed Public-House, known as the ALBION INN, Union Street, now occupied by Mrs. *Evans*, containing taproom, bar, parlour, kitchen, large clubroom, three bedrooms, brewhouse, extensive cellaring, storehouses or workshops, with rooms over same, three stables, gighouse, and good roomy yard, and every convenient and requisite outbuilding, with carriage drive into Union Street; and a Cottage, fronting Malthouse Lane, suitable for brewer or ostler; also a Dwelling-House, now void, with cellar, front and back kitchen, and three bedrooms and one petty, with right of road thereto through lot No.2, and up entry out of Union Street, producing £45 per annum.....”

Joseph Partridge was also a painter and plumber. [1861]

1861 Census

Union Street – ALBION HOUSE

- [1] *Joseph Partridge* (43), painter and publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] Elizabeth Partridge (36), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Mary Partridge (14), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] William H. Partridge (12), son, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Elizabeth Partridge (11), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [6] Harriet Partridge (10), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [7] Ann Partridge (7), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [8] Thomas Partridge (5), son, born West Bromwich;
- [9] Josiah Partridge (8 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [10] Harriett Moore (15), house servant, born Bloxwich:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/4/1861

“At the Police Court, on Monday last, *Joseph Partridge*, a publican living in Willenhall, was summoned for allowing gaming in his house. Mr. Slater appeared in defence. The case rested for the most part on a statement of a young man named Thomas Claydon, and the evidence went to show that on the 1st inst. a number of men were playing at bagatelle in a room upstairs, and

that bets were made on the game. It was also shown that brass counters were kept in the house and circulated as money, only that they were used to pay for nothing but beer. In this particular instance it did not seem that the gaming was carried on with the full knowledge and consent of the defendant, and the case was therefore dismissed. On a second charge against *Partridge* for assaulting Claydon at the time gaming was going on, the defendant was ordered to pay costs.”

London Gazette 29/11/1861

“*Joseph Partridge*, of Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Painter and Glazier, and also a Publican, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, is hereby required to surrender himself to the Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 19th day of December next, at nine o’clock in the forenoon precisely, at the Court-house, Queen-street, Wolverhampton. Mr. C. G. Brown, of Wolverhampton, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. James Walker, of Wolverhampton, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

London Gazette 27/12/1861

“*Joseph Partridge*, of Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Painter and Glazier, and also a Publican, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, on the 26th day of November, 1861, a public sitting for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination and make application for his Discharge, will be held before the Judge of the said Court, on the 10th day of January next, at the said Court, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, at nine o’clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, of Wolverhampton, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. James Walker, of Wolverhampton, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

* possibly the same person

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/3/1864

“*John Wedge*, landlord of the ALBION INN, Willenhall, was summoned by Police-constable Dutton, and fined 2s 6d and costs, for permitting drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house, on the 24th ult.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/4/1864 - Deaths

“On the 30th ultimo, after a protracted illness, aged 37 years, Mary Ann, the beloved wife of Mr. *John Wedge*, of the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/4/1864

“*John Wedge*, landlord of the ALBION INN, Union Street, was charged with allowing drunken and disorderly conduct in his house on Wednesday night week. The offence was proved by police-officer Dutton, who stated that on the night in question he was on duty near the defendant’s premises, and hearing a noise went in, and found about twenty men creating a disturbance, one man being knocked down in his presence. On returning shortly afterwards with another officer, the doors were fastened, but they saw through a crevice that a regular fight was going on, which the defendant was himself encouraging. The bench inflicted a fine of £1 and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1864

“The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans for the Wolverhampton Division of Seisdon North, was held yesterday, at the County Police Court, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.....

The following persons had their licenses suspended until the adjourned licensing day, on the 12th of September.....

John Wedge, of the ALBION, Willenhall, who had been fined on two occasions, once for permitting drunkenness, and once for permitting disorderly conduct.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1864

“The adjourned licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton Division of Seisdon North was held on Monday last.....

Three licenses were suspended at the last meeting, in consequence of the holders having been convicted within the last year.....

Mr. *Wedge*, of the ALBION INN, Willenhall.....

Mr. H. Underhill applied on behalf of *Wedge* for the renewal of his license, stating that the misconduct which resulted in the convictions that had taken place against him arose in a great measure through the illness of *Wedge*’s wife, and that his client’s conduct of his house was generally orderly and proper. Mr. *Wedge* would pledge himself that he would in future manage his house with due order and regularity, and therefore he (Mr. Underhill) hoped that the Magistrates would not withdraw the license, but give the applicant an opportunity of retrieving his character.

Inspector Thompson informed the Bench that the house was the resort of fighting characters.

Mr. Underhill replied that he was instructed to the contrary.

Mr. Hill said the Bench would renew the license, but if the applicant permitted fighting characters to resort to his house the fact must be reported by the police and if *Wedge* was convicted again he would very likely lose his license.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/10/1864

“*John Wedge*, of the ALBION INN, charged Stephen Pitt and George Turner with creating a disturbance and fighting in his house on Monday night, the 3rd instant, and the Magistrates inflicted a fine of 1s on each of the defendants, or three weeks’ imprison-

ment.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 20/1/1866

“J. Clift of Lane End will fight Tooney of Wednesfield, for from £10 up to £25 a side, and Clift will meet Tooney on Monday next, at Mr. *J. Wedge*'s, the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall, to make a match and sign articles.”

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

“125 Yards Handicap (All England). Mr. Tranter (the proprietor of the Britannia Grounds, Tipton) will give £5 as a first prize, £2 as second, and 10s as third prize, distance 125 yards in an All England Handicap, to come off on Monday, June 11. Entrance 1s each, no acceptance, to be made on or before Tuesday, June 5, at the grounds, or to T. Rogers, CROSS KEYS, Bilston; Tim Thomas, RAILWAY INN, Dudley Port; Danks, BRITISH QUEEN, Wednesbury; *Wedge*, ALBION INN, Willenhall; or Thompson, ROEBUCK, Brettell Lane. Any one entering falsely will be disqualified. The above is for the benefit of T. Watkinson (better known as Darby Tom), who has been lamed in the coal mines. The proceeds of the above benefit will go towards defraying his expenses to a watering place for the recovery of his strength. We hope he will receive a bumper on this occasion, as he is well deserving of the same, he having hitherto acted as master of the ceremonies of the above grounds, although suffering from lameness in the feet, &c.”

Birmingham Journal 11/5/1867 - Notice

“Notice is Hereby Given, that an Order of Discharge was, on the 6th day of May, 1867, granted by the Court of Bankruptcy for the Birmingham District, at Birmingham, to *John Wedge*, of the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Galvanizer, and now a Prisoner for Debt in the Gaol at Stafford, in the county of Stafford. James and Griffin, Solicitors, Birmingham; Agents for G. H. Chambley, Solicitor, Wolverhampton.”

1871 Census

6, Union Street

- [1] *Michael Gallagher* (43), widower, licensed victualler, born Liverpool;
- [2] Sarah Ann Gallagher (14), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Mary Gallagher (11), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Michael Gallagher (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Mary Gallagher (42), sister, servant out of employ, born Lothian, Ireland;
- [6] Phebe Babb (35), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [7] John Dimmock (16), boarder, key stamper, born Wolverhampton:

Michael Gallagher – check also GRAPES.

London Gazette 21/4/1876

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Michael Gallagher*, of the ALBION INN, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at my office, 16, Bennett's-hill, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 5th day of May, 1876, at three o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 19th day of April, 1876.

R. A. Dale, Solicitor for the said *Michael Gallagher*.”

George Fortnam = George Fortnum

George Fortnam was born in the 2nd quarter of 1849.

1881 Census

105, Union Street

- [1] *George Fortnam* (32), publican and grocer, born Willenhall;
- [2] Eliza Fortnam (29), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Arthur E. Fortnam (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Lucy E. Fortnam (4 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Mary Evans (19), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [6] Janett Hill (15), general servant, born Willenhall:

In October 1884 an inquest was held here into the death of Emily Hughes, wife of Thomas Hughes of the OLD CROWN, Union Street. Thomas Hughes was subsequently tried at Stafford on a charge of grievous bodily harm and was acquitted. See under OLD CROWN, Union Street.

1891 Census

105, Union Street

- [1] *George Fortnam* (42), licensed victualler and corn dealer, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Eliza Fortnam* (39), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Arthur E. Fortnam* (12), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Lucy E. Fortnam* (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Ethel M. Fortnam* (7), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Frederick Fortnam* (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Annie Sheppard* (18), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Ann Croft* (18), nurse, born Willenhall:

George Fortnum was also a corn, hop and seed merchant of 15, Stafford Street. [1892]

1901 Census

105, Union Street

- [1] *George Fortnam* (52), corn dealer and licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Eliza Fortnam* (49), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Arthur E. Fortnam* (22), son, corn dealer, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Lucy E. Fortnam* (20), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Joseph T. Fortnam* (9), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *William Henry Fortnam* (6), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Emma Bennett* (27), domestic servant, born Moxley;
- [8] *Laura Whitehouse* (15), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

Union Street

- [1] *Arthur Fowler* (46), publican, born Bentley;
- [2] *Mary Jane Fowler* (46), wife, married 22 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *William Henry Fowler* (17), son, butcher, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Annie Rowledge Phillips* (20), servant, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/4/1928

“Mr. Tom B. Adams (chairman) presided at a meeting of the County Licensing Committee held at the Shirehall, Stafford The proposed removal of the full license of the ALBION INN, Willenhall, to the SHAKESPEARE INN, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall, a distance of about 300 yards, was refused.

Mr. A. Ward (barrister), who opposed on behalf of Frank Myatt, Ltd. mentioned that within 250 yards of the SHAKESPEARE INN there were eight fully licensed houses, nine beerhouses, and two wineshops.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 21/4/1928

“At the County Licensing Confirmation Committee at Stafford on Thursday, application by John Moran for the removal of the full license of the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall, to the SHAKESPEARE INN, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall (a beerhouse), was supported by Mr. R. Harris (representing Messrs. Atkinson, the owners), and opposed by Mr. Arthur Ward (for Messrs. Myatt, owners of the STAR, Lower Lichfield Street).

The latter cross-examined witnesses to show that within 250 yards of the SHAKESPEARE there was 19 licensed houses, viz 8 full licenses; whilst in the last eight years, 8 houses had been closed in the same radius on the grounds of redundancy.

The application for confirmation was refused.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 14/7/1928

“Under the new arrangement by which Willenhall became an independent licensing area instead of as formerly having licensing matters before the Wolverhampton Justices, the first session was held at Willenhall on Monday. There was not much business of particular moment, and Mr. J. Legge, who presided, mentioning that the administration of licensing matters was new to the district, expressed the hope that the business would be carried out in an adequate manner both with regard to the public and the trade.Mr. R. Harris presented plans of proposed alterations to the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall, on behalf of Atkinson’s Brewery, and Mr. Legge, who mentioned that he had visited the premises, said that he thought greater improvements than those suggested were needed. He wished it to be clearly understood that if the Justices consented to the suggested improvements, that the decision would be given without prejudice, and that the owners of the property would understand that when the matter came up for consideration later on, something very different from the improvement now suggested would be expected.

Mr. Harris explained that an application was made to the Wolverhampton Justices for the license to be removed to the SHAKESPEARE HOTEL. The removal was approved, but failed to receive confirmation at Stafford. The owners had been rather handicapped, because they did not know what attitude the magistrates would take. In granting the application, Mr. Legge said it must be distinctly understood that it was granted without prejudice.

Sitting with Mr. Legge, were Messrs. J. A. Harper, J. E. A. Squire, W. Fletcher, J. T. Kidson, R. Clift, H. H. Chilton, and G. C. Evans.”

Birmingham Mail 30/12/1940

“When *Moses Alexander Evan Lane* (aged 48), a former licensee of the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall, was charged at Willenhall today with embezzling £49 8s 5d belonging to Atkinsons Brewery Ltd, it was stated that he absconded at the end of July, 1929, but was not arrested until December 16 of this year when he visited Willenhall. He was now a corporal in the Army, and Inspector S. Cresswell said he had served with distinction, having won the Military Medal at Dunkirk. Mr. A. W. Stockhouse (district manager) said the brewery did not wish to press the case in view of the length of time and the man’s good record in the Army. The case was dismissed on payment of costs, 15s. Defendant agreed to come to some arrangement with the brewery to repay the money.”

Closed

ANGEL

Cross Street, Catherine’s Cross, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Daniel Wright [1828] – [1830]

NOTES

The Post Coach to Birmingham left from here every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning at half past 8. [1828]

ANGEL

27, (19), Market Place (Wolverhampton Street) / Angel Passage, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1933]

LICENSEES

Joseph Lees [1818] ?
Joseph Turner [1818] – [1822]
Mrs. Frances Llewellyn [1832]
Thomas Carter [1834] – [1835]
William Putnam [1841] – [1842]
John Putnam [1845] – [1851]
William Putnam [] – **1852**;
Thomas Ray (**1852** – [1858]
Joseph Hincks [1859] – [1860]
Thomas Wakelam [1861]
Joseph Hincks (**1861** – **1866**);
James O’Leary (**1866** – []
Timothy Leary and Sons [1868] – [1872]
Timothy Leary [1873] – [1874]
Mrs. T Leary and Sons [1879]
Timothy Leary [1881]
Alfred Leary [1880] – **1881**
John Madden [1881] manager
William Jenkins [1891]
Edwin Arthur Poulton [1901] manager

Henry Jenkins [1904]
Edward Cotton [1908]
Mrs. Sarah Ellen Foxall [1911] – [1912]
Thomas Pickering (1915 – 1920)
William Mulloy [1921]
Edward George Brown [] – 1928;
Vincent Ernest Bibb (1928 – []
Percival Watkins [1932]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Street [1851]
19, Market Place [1871]
27, Market Place [1881], [1904], [1908], [1932]

OLD ANGEL [1859]
ANGEL HOTEL [1911]

Joseph Lees was also a painter. [1818]

Joseph Turner was also a plumber, glazier and painter. [1818]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/7/1832 - Advert

“Under An Assignment For The Benefit Of Creditors, Without Reserve.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Richard Corbett, On the Premises, on Monday, 16th July, 1832:

The Lease, Licenses, Good-will, and Possession of the old-established House the ANGEL INN, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, now in the occupation of Mrs. *Frances Llewelin*; also the whole of the genteel Household Furniture, Stock of Ale, Wines, Spirituous Liquors, Iron-bound Ale Barrels, Brewing Utensils, and all other effects and fixtures on the said premises.

The sale to commence at ten o’clock in the morning, with the lease, licenses, &c.; after which the furniture, stock, and fixtures; particulars of which are now in circulation, and may be had at the office of the Auctioneer, New Town, Bilston.”

The coach to Birmingham ran from here. [1834]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/3/1836 - Advert

“To Be Let, And entered upon at Lady-day next, An Old Established Public House, situated at Willenhall, and known by the sign of the ANGEL INN. The present proprietor is going to a farm.

For particulars inquire on the premises.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/3/1843

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

On the 21st, at the ANGEL INN, Willenhall, on Samuel Jarvis, a boy, who had been killed by machinery while at work. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Wolverhampton Street

[1] *John Putnam* (49), tailor and victualler, born Wansworth, Surry;

[2] Sarah Putnam (46), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Betsey Louisa Putnam (17), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] Sarah Ann Putnam (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] John Pritchard (19), apprentice, tailor, born Willenhall:

John Putnam – see also SARACENS HEAD.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/3/1858 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale, at the ANGEL INN, Market Place, Willenhall, Staffordshire.

Belonging to Mr. *Thomas Ray*, who is leaving the house.

H. W. Greader will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday next, the 23rd day of March, all the excellent Brewing Utensils, consisting of furnaces, vats, lead piping, a quantity of well-seasoned ale casks, oval and round coolers, 18 strike mash tub, two tumps of Hops, patent weighing machine, screens, tables, bedsteads, beds, large stove grate, three sham register grates, light Spring Trap, bagatelle board, balls, and cue, excellent eight-day clock in oak case, and various other effects, four-pull Beer Machine, piping, and taps, Spirit Fountain and taps.

Sale to commence at eleven o’clock in the morning, with the usual conditions.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

“The annual licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton division of North Seisdon was held in the county magistrates’ room, Bilston Street, this day.....

Mr. Motteram, of the Oxford Circuit, applied on behalf of Mr. *Hincks* for a renewal of a license to the OLD ANGEL INN, Willenhall. The application was opposed by Mr. H. Underhill for Mr. Silk, of the KING’S HEAD INN, on the ground that the business was being carried on at a gin shop twenty-seven yards from the site of the OLD ANGEL, which the applicant averred he would rebuild as soon as he could settle with Mr. York, the trustee of adjoining property, as to the pulling down of the gable. The renewal was granted.

The license to Mr. Silk for the KINGS HEAD, Willenhall, was also renewed, the opposition of Mr. Motteram being withdrawn.”

1861 Census

Market Place – ANGEL SPIRIT VAULTS

- [1] *Joseph Hincks* (45), spirit merchant, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Hincks* (49), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Joseph Hincks* (19), son, articled clerk, born Willenhall;
- [4] *John C. H. Hincks* (17), articled clerk, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Clara Jordan* (29), assistant, born Stourbridge;
- [6] *Sarah Harwood* (23), assistant, born West Bromwich;
- [7] *Harriet Penn* (18), servant, born Wednesfield:

Birmingham Daily Post 17/9/1866 - Advert

“Wanted, a Servant Woman, age 25 to 30.
Apply at the ANGEL INN, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/10/1866

“At the Police Court, on Monday, an old offender, named *Thomas Kendrick*, was brought up in custody charged with stealing money from a till. On Friday last, the prisoner, with a number of others, were drinking at a liquor shop in the Market Place, kept by Mr. *Timothy Leary*, and in the absence of the waiter the prisoner was observed to go behind the counter and take something out of the money drawer. The waiter saw him coming away from the till, and he was immediately searched, but no money was found upon him. On the room being examined, however, some coins were found on the floor among the sawdust, and two witnesses swore that the prisoner had three sixpences in his hand when he left the till.

Prisoner, when charged with the offence by the waiter, stated that he only went round to have a drought sherry; but before the Magistrates he contradicted this statement and said he went for the purpose of getting a glass of porter which he had ordered from the waiter.

He was committed for three months’ hard labour.”

Timothy Leary and Sons were wine and spirit merchants. [1868], [1872], [1873]

See also OLD KINGS ARMS, Bloxwich.

1871 Census

19, Market Place

- [1] *Timothy Leary* (62), widower, wine and spirit merchant employing 1 man, born Cork, Ireland;
 - [2] *Alfred Leary* (27), son, born Manchester;
 - [3] *Elizabeth Maria Leary* (22), daughter, born Manchester;
 - [4] *George Samuel Leary* (25), son, born Manchester;
 - [5] *Caroline Emily Leary* (17), daughter, born Manchester;
 - [6] *John Turner* (21), barman, born Coton End, Staffordshire;
 - [7] *Ann Baker* (22), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:
- [There are at least two places called Coton in Staffordshire.]

Birmingham Daily Post 5/6/1880 - Advert

“General Servant Wanted at once; must be clean and active and thoroughly understand plain cooking. Age about 26 preferred. Housemaid kept.
Apply, Mrs. *Alfred Leary*, Market Place, Willenhall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/1/1881 - Advert

“General Servant (experienced) Wanted; must be respectable, trustworthy, and have a thorough knowledge of plain cooking; good references indispensable.
Apply Mrs. *Alfred Leary*, Willenhall.”

1881 Census

27, Market Place – ANGEL INN

- [1] *Alfred Leary* (37), wholesale and retail spirit merchant, born Manchester;
- [2] *Kate Leary* (26), wife, born Dudley Port;

- [3] Edith M. Leary (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Alice M. Leary (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Ethel M. Leary (7 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] John Madden (33), public house manager, born Ireland;
- [7] William Bennett (27), publican's waiter, born Bilston;
- [8] John Hopkins (17), publican's waiter, born Wednesbury;
- [9] Theresa Yates (34), nurse, born Wolverhampton;
- [10] Annie Led___ (17), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [11] Julia L. Patrick (27), general servant, born Westbury, Shropshire:

Alfred Leary moved to the ROYAL TIGER in Wednesfield in December 1881.

1891 Census

27, Market Place

- [1] *William Jenkins* (39), wine and spirit merchant's manager, born Burnt Tree near Dudley;
- [2] Rosannah Jenkins (40), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Frederick Jenkins (21), son, railway clerk, born Willenhall;
- [4] Rose Jenkins (17), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Annie Jenkins (14), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Walter Jenkins (11), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Florence Jenkins (9), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] Ada Jenkins (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] Henry Jenkins (22), brother, wine and spirit merchant's assistant, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

27, Market Place – ANGEL HOTEL

- [1] *Edwin Arthur Poulton* (26), manager of hotel, born Oldbury;
- [2] Edith Poulton (26), wife, born Salford, Lancashire;
- [3] Edith Josephine Poulton (5 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Clara Humphries (14), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/3/1910

“Adjourned licensing sessions for the Seisdon division of the county.....

Plans for alterations at the ANGEL INN, Willenhall, were sanctioned. They will reduce the drinking area and provide for better police supervision.”

1911 Census

Market Place

- [1] *Sarah E. Foxall* (40), widow, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Dorothy E. Foxall (16), daughter, dressmaker's apprentice, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Horace Henry Foxall (14), son, junior clerk, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] John Henry Legg (8), nephew, born London;
- [5] Bertram Legg (29), brother, barman, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Ellen Banks (16), domestic servant, born New Invention:

Thomas Pickering was also a professional musician.

He was the proprietor of St. Peter's Gymnasium in Wolverhampton. [1893]

Birmingham Daily Post 15/5/1917

“Ada May Oakley (21), of Cannock, was fined £3, or one month's imprisonment, at Willenhall, yesterday, on the charge of having stolen £3 12s 6d, the property of *Thomas Pickering*, of the ANGEL HOTEL, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/4/1934

“Appearing on behalf of Frank Myatt Limited, Birmingham, Mr. E. E. Brown applied for the confirmation of a provisional removal order of the full license of the ANGEL INN, Willenhall, to premises known as the BLACK LION, Willenhall, which at present has a beer-house license. There was no opposition.

Mr. Brown mentioned that the effect of granting the transfer would be that one house in the Willenhall Petty Sessional area would go without any compensation, and that it would facilitate a road-widening scheme. In the area to which it was proposed to remove the license, building of a very substantial character had been going on for the last two or three years.

The application was granted.”

Closed

It was demolished around 1934 to make way for the Willenhall Gas Company's new offices.

The site was later occupied by a newsagent's shop.

BALACLAVA

Stringes Lane, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

It appeared on J. A. Hall's map of 1859.

BARREL

31, (32), Cannon Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Parsons Pitt [1849] – [1874]
John Veal [1881]
William Amos [1915]
George Albert Allen [1921]
Thomas Burden [1932]
Mrs. Phoebe Plaster [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

32, Cannon Street [1881]
31, Cannon Street [1939]

BARRELL [1861], [1881]

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Journal 25/8/1849

“Wolverhampton. Victuallers' Licenses. A Special Sessions for granting and transferring innkeepers' licenses, was held at the Public Office on Thursday new licenses granted *William Parson Pitt*, Willenhall.”

AND

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1849

“Annual meeting of Magistrates for granting and renewing victuallers licenses for Seisdon North.....

Applications for fresh licenses The statements in support of the application were almost uniformly to the effect that the applicant had for many years kept a beershop without complaint, and that the premises were suitable for a public house, which was much required in the neighbourhood. Licenses were granted to the following persons.....

William Parsons Pitt, Willenhall.”

1851 Census

Cannon Street

[1] *William C. (?) Pitt*, (41), innkeeper, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Mary Pitt* (36), wife, born Staffordshire;

[3] Caroline Bickley (20), housemaid, born Wednesfield:

1861 Census

Cannon Street – BARREL TAVERN

- [1] *William Pitt* (50), innkeeper, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Pitt* (47), wife, born Essington, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Rosannah Smith* (20), servant, born Willenhall:

William Parsons Pitt, beer retailer, Cannon Street. [1868]

1871 Census

Cannon Street

- [1] *William P. Pitt* (59), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Pitt* (56), wife, born Bushbury;
- [3] *Fanny Dugmore* (23), general servant, born Willenhall:

1881 Census

32, Cannon Street – BARRELL INN

- [1] *John Veal* (54), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Veal* (52), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Agnes Veal* (24), daughter, certificated teacher, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Clara Veal* (22), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *John Veal* (20), son, mortice lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Harry Veal* (18), son, pupil teacher, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/1/1915

“*William Amos*, licensee of the BARREL INN, Cannon Street, Willenhall, was summoned for selling to a boy under the age of 14 a quantity of beer less than a reputed pint. Mr. W. A. Foster (Wolverhampton) defended.

The evidence of the police was to the effect that a boy aged 12½ years was seen to leave the BARREL INN with two bottles of beer corked and sealed. The licensee and his wife, when questioned, said the boy paid 3d for the beer. The defendant added, ‘Yes, that’s right; it’s a reputed pint I supplied him with. I measure half-a-pint in this glass measure, and then we give 50 per cent over. I am all right. I am acting under instructions, and we get allowance from the brewery for it.’ When the bottles were broken and the contents measured they were found to contain three-quarters of an Imperial pint. In answer to Mr. Foster, Police-sergeant Evans said he understood a reputed pint to be one-twelfth of a gallon. He agreed that the purchaser got more than a reputed pint. Mr. Foster pointed out that a reputed pint had never been defined by Act of Parliament, but in practice was generally agreed to be a twelfth of a gallon. He submitted that no offence had been committed.

The magistrates came to the conclusion that there was no intention to evade the law, and dismissed the case. A charge against the parents of the boy was withdrawn on payment of costs.”

1939 Register

31, Cannon Street (4 of 5)

- [1] *John Plaster*, date of birth 2/5/1882, general labourer, married;
- [2] *Phoebe Plaster*, dob 10/6/1880, tenant public house, married;
- [3] *Harry Farnell*, dob 29/7/1917, tool setter, capstans, single;
- [4] *John J. Plaster*, dob 17/10/1919, machine tool setter (metal), single;

Check Church Street

BARREL

40, Church Street, (Froysell Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Arthur James Ward (1890 – 1896)

Josiah T Wilkes [1901]

William H Berry [1904]

James Joseph O’Dowd [1908]

William Amos [1916]

NOTES

Froysell Street [1911]
40, Church Street

BARRELL [1901], [1904]

Birmingham Daily Post 13/9/1899

“Bankruptcy Proceedings.....

Re *Arthur James Ward*, licensed victualler, late of the PACK HORSE INN, Dudley Street, Wolverhampton.

This debtor filed his petition with liabilities amounting to £282 8s 4d and assets £28.

According to the Official Receiver’s observations, the debtor was formerly in business as the landlord of the BARREL INN, Willenhall. In June 1896, he took to the PACK HORSE INN, and agreed to pay £419 for the stock, fixtures, and license. While at the BARREL INN he had received a sum of money which was advanced under the terms of his father’s will, and he now received a further sum of £250. Altogether he says he has received £600 on account of his interest in his father’s estate. He attributes his failure to heavy trade expenses, bad trade, bad debts, and illness.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/9/1899

“*Arthur James Ward* 1890 commenced business as licensed victualler at the BARREL INN, Willenhall, from money from father’s will.”

[He paid £110 for fixtures, fittings and license.]

1901 Census

Church Street – BARRELL INN

- [1] *Josiah T. Wilkes* (43), publican, born Darlaston;
- [2] Annie Wilkes (43), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Sarah A. Wilkes (20), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] George Wilkes (17), son, locksmith, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Hannah A. Wilkes (16), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Doris Wilkes (5), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] John Bough (19), boarder, labourer, born Hereford:

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1910

“The annual licensing sessions were held yesterday.....

An offer was made by the owners to surrender the license of the BARREL VAULTS, Church Street, if the new license was granted. The application was granted on condition that Messrs. Butler, brewers, gave up two houses.”

Check Cannon Street.

BARREL AND SHIVE

18, Market Place, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Union Pub Co. (W&D) [2000]

LICENSEES

John Wedge* [1863]
John Wedge* [1867] – **1869**);
Mary Wedge (**1869** – []
George Owen [1872]
John Smith [1879] – [1881]
Daniel Baker [1891]
Samuel Storer [1911] – [1912]

William Henry Hall [1915]
Edwin H Collingswood [1940]
Beryl Pauline Allen [1942] – [1944]
Bob Cain [1991]
Alan Howdle [2007]
Mick Anderson (2011 – []

NOTES

It was formerly the MARKET TAVERN

It had a beerhouse license.

* possibly the same person

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/9/1863

“Five working men, named Thomas Shaw, Joseph Fox, James Potter, Thomas Law, and John Jacks, were charged with fighting and doing wilful damage in the MARKET TAVERN, Market Place, Willenhall, on Monday evening week. Only one magistrate being in attendance, the case was adjourned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/10/1863 - Advert

“MARKET TAVERN, Market Place, Willenhall.

Clearing Out Sale, positively without reserve, on Tuesday next, October 20, 1863, in consequence of the proprietor being compelled to leave the premises.

Mr. Thomas Skidmore has received instructions from Mr. *John Wedge* to Sell by Auction, the whole of the Public House Effects, capital screen, seats, benches, fixtures, gas fittings, signs, window blinds, capital ale barrels, 300 gals., 250 ditto, three 120 gals., and eight 60 gals.; 160 gal. wrought iron boiler with grate and brickwork; 80 gal. wrought iron ditto, strong 18 bushel mash tub, capital pair vats, with 1½ lead piping to cellar; coolers, gathering tubs, superior five-pull ale machine, with barrel taps and piping; drinking tables, capital seats with backs, two dozen Windsor chairs, useful Household Furniture, 8-day timepiece, chimney glasses, sets of handsome mahogany four-post bedsteads, with cornice, mattresses, feather beds, mahogany and painted chest of drawers with other useful effects.

Sale punctually at eleven o'clock in the morning.

Catalogues at the Office of the Auctioneer, 2, Bilston Street.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 14/12/1867

“G. Jones of Willenhall will make a match to fight E. Hyde of Portobello any time during the next three weeks, for from £5 to £10 a side, at catch weight. A deposit forwarded to Bells Life, and articles to *J. Wedge*, the MARKET TAVERN, Market Place, Willenhall, will ensure a match.”

John Wedge was also a galvanized iron worker, John Street. [1868]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/3/1868

“A case came before the Bench at the Police Court on Monday last, which revealed a state of things with respect to some portion of the working juvenile population of this neighbourhood, which but for the fact that they were sworn to on oath, with every appearance of truthfulness, could hardly have been credited. A man named *John Wedge*, landlord of the MARKET TAVERN – which it appears is also a kind of low concert room – in the Market Place, was summoned for permitting gambling in his house. Mr. Slater appeared in support of the information, and called a youth named John Tomkinson, who stated that he was 16 years of age. He stated that on Tuesday night, the 17th inst, he went to the defendant’s house to have a pint of ale, and he there saw a number of other youths playing at cards. They were playing a game called ‘Seeing Don’. The landlady, Mrs. *Wedge*, was in and out of the room several times, and not only saw them playing, but served ale during the games. The defendant was upstairs serving cheques for the Concert Hall.

The defendant cross-examined the witness at some length to show that the information had been laid at the instance of the witness’s father out of a spirit of malice, and this led to some further questions on the part of Mr. Slater, which resulted in the following disclosures: Witness said he had another brother, 14 years of age, who also went to the defendant’s house. About two years ago his brother, who was then only 12 years of age, was induced by the defendant to make a bet on a foot race. His brother won the bet, and he (defendant) afterwards paid him the amount, which was between two and three pounds. In reply to Mr. Fisher the witness said his brother had saved the money to make the bet with. The defendant also kept boxing gloves, and witness had seen him, on several occasions, put the gloves on to his younger brother, and also on to his (defendant’s) son, and set them on to spar. After they had practised at this for some time, the defendant on one occasion proposed that a regular fight should take place between his (defendant’s) son and witness’s brother, but the latter declined, and the match did not come off.

In reply to the Bench, witness said he had been in the habit of going to the defendant’s house about twelve months. He learned to play at cards first by seeing other lads playing in the fields on Sunday afternoons. His younger brother, however, was taught card-playing by the defendant.

A lad, named Joseph Harper, who said he was 15 years of age, was next called. He said that on Tuesday night last he was sent by the last witness's father to fetch him home from the defendant's house, and he then saw several boys playing at cards. He also saw beer brought in by the landlady. The witness further stated that he had been in the habit of going to the defendant's concert room for some time, and he had seen a good many other boys there as well, both big and little, and some younger than himself. They paid threepence to go in, which was returned to them in ale. The defendant took the cheques, and never made any objection to them on account of their youth.

In reply to the charge, the defendant denied that the card-playing was with his knowledge, and called a collier lad named Lyons, 19 years of age, who stated that on the day in question he had gone to the defendant's house to receive 7s which was due to him from the defendant for a load of allowance coal which he had sold him. Out of the 7s he spent one shilling in ale, according to agreement, which was drunk by himself and some other youths. Witness then produced a pack of cards out of his pocket, and they commenced playing, but he denied that either the landlord or the landlady knew anything about it, though, in cross-examination, he admitted that ale was brought in by the landlady whilst he was playing.

The Rev. Mr. Fisher, in announcing the decision of the Bench, said they were satisfied that card-playing did go on in the defendant's house, and that it must have been to the knowledge of either himself or his wife. The evidence had revealed a most shocking state of things, which most certainly ought to be put a stop to. It went to show that the defendant was doing his best – although, perhaps, not so far as he was concerned, with that view, his object being of course to put money in his own pocket – but it would have this result: the training up all those youths who resorted to his house to habits of gambling and dissipation. They fined him £1 and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates' office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for permitting gaming.....

John Wedge, MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall, 20s.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/10/1869

“*John Wedge*, a publican, while driving home from the Vauxhall Gardens, Essington, on Monday, was thrown out of his trap and injured so severely that he died on the following night. It is believed that he was intoxicated at the time of the accident. Deceased has left a wife and six children to mourn his untimely fate.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/10/1869

“Wolverhampton County Court. Monday. The following transfers of beerhouse licenses were granted.....

from *John Wedge* (deceased) to his widow, *Mary Wedge*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/10/1869

“The inquest on the body of Mr. *John Wedge*, of the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall, who was killed on Monday, the 4th inst., by being thrown out of a trap while returning home from Vauxhall Gardens, Essington, was opened on the 8th inst. and concluded last Monday, before Mr. T. M. Phillips, coroner. It seemed that the deceased and Frederick Jones, pork butcher, of Willenhall, were at the gardens in question together on the Monday afternoon. Jones was drunk; but the deceased was sober. About five o'clock Jones's horse and trap were brought up to the garden gates, and the deceased said to Jones, ‘Let me drive and I'll drive you steady home.’ Jones replied, ‘Get into the trap, and I'll drive you home sooner than ever you were driven in your life.’ Jones, after several ineffectual attempts, got into the trap, the deceased following. As they were going away the deceased said to some persons standing by, ‘I expect I shall get my neck broken.’ Jones drove off in a very rapid manner, and the bystanders, fearing that an accident would happen, ran after the trap. After going a little distance Jones stood up to urge the horse on, and the deceased endeavoured to catch hold of the reins. On this Jones fell against the deceased, and, owing it is thought to their weight being thrown suddenly on one side of the vehicle, the trap, a light one, overturned, and the occupants were pitched out, and the deceased fell on his face, and received injuries which caused compression of the brain and resulted fatally. The jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Jones, who was committed for trial, but admitted to bail. Mr. Thurstans appeared for Jones, and Mr. Cresswell for the deceased's friends.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/10/1869

“The magistrates on Monday committed Frederick Jones for trial at the Assizes on a charge of manslaughter, in having while under the influence of drink caused the death of *John Wedge*, publican, under circumstances already related in the Advertiser. The accused was admitted to bail.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 19/3/1870

“Staffordshire Assizes. Crown Court. Wednesday. (Before Mr. Justice Lush.)

Frederick Jones, on bail, was indicted for killing and slaying *John Wedge*, on the 4th October, at Wednesfield, in the parish of Wolverhampton.

Mr. Browne prosecuted, and stated that the case would resolve itself into an inquiry as to whether the prisoner had by his careless, negligent, and reckless driving caused the death of the man *Wedge*. The deceased was an innkeeper at Willenhall, and the prisoner is a pork butcher of the same place. On the day in question the prisoner was at the house of the deceased, and both left together in

the afternoon for the purpose of witnessing a bicycle race at the Vauxhall Gardens. Here they had a considerable amount of drink, and on the road home the prisoner drove at a rapid, reckless pace. As was alleged the gig was overturned, the deceased thrown out, and he died on the 6th from concussion of the brain, caused by the fall.

Mr. Young, who appeared for the defence, submitted that on the opening there was nothing to fasten on his client the charge in the indictment. The deceased saw that the prisoner was drunk, and voluntarily entrusted himself to his care.

His Lordship said that the prisoner had undertaken to drive the deceased.

Mr. Young cited the decision of Mr. Justice Willes, in the *Queen v Birchell*, in support of his argument, but his Lordship said that he could not stop the case, as he did not know whether it would turn on this point.

From the testimony given by the witnesses who were called, it was apparent that on the occasion of the accident the prisoner was very drunk indeed, and that the deceased was sufficiently sober to know that prisoner was unfit to drive. At the conclusion of the case for the prosecution, his Lordship remarked that there was no need to go into the defence, as it was evident that both men were at the time in an excited state, and the deceased had contributed to the accident by allowing the prisoner to drive while in a madly drunken state.

Mr. Young upon this elected to leave the case to the jury without calling witnesses, and his Lordship proceeded to sum up.

The jury found the prisoner guilty, but recommended him to mercy.

The learned Judge, in passing sentence, remarked that this was another wretched illustration of the dangers attending the practice of the very common vice of drunkenness. Day after day they had such cases in the criminal courts of the country, and it was becoming more and more apparent that to drunkenness alone the greater portion of the crime of the country might be traced. Taking the calendar of the present assizes, he found that if he struck out all those cases which had their origin in drunkenness there would hardly be one left. The prisoner was undoubtedly a very respectable man, and if sober he would not have acted or spoken in the manner described; yet he must be taught that drunkenness could not excuse crime, and that reckless driving, when it resulted in the death of any person, was a very serious offence. Happily in this case the prisoner was only culpable in a minor degree, and the sentence of the court was that he should be imprisoned for one month."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/11/1870

"R. Bolders of Willenhall will run J. Turner of Monmore Green if he will allow him a yard start in 100, for £5 a side. Money ready at the MARKET TAVERN, Market Street, Willenhall."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/11/1870

"E. Wedge of Willenhall is surprised at J. Tunny and J. Green (both of Wolverhampton) wanting starts of him, but if they mean match making Wedge will take three yards of Green, and two of Tunny in 120, for £10 or £15. Money ready at Messrs *Wedge's* MARKET TAVERN, Market Street, Willenhall."

1871 Census

Market Place

- [1] *Mary Wedge* (28), widow, publican, born Ireland;
- [2] *Enoch Wedge* (20), son, galvaniser, born Ecclestone, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Richard Wedge* (17), son, galvaniser, born Ecclestone, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Marina Wedge* (15), daughter, born Ecclestone, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Martha Wedge* (12), daughter, born Ecclestone, Staffordshire;
- [6] *Mary A. Wedge* (6), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Ellen Cartwright* (16), adopted, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

"Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Beerhouses: *George Owen*, MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall....."

1881 Census

18, Market Street

- [1] *John Smith* (46), beer seller, born Kings Norton;
- [2] *Sarah A. Smith* (36), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Louisa Tyre* (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 20/11/1890

"Mr. Joseph B. Lees had received instructions from the Trustee of the late Mr. William Blakemore, to Offer the following Valuable Properties for Sale by Auction, at the house of Mr. Joseph Lawrence, SWAN HOTEL, Market Place, Willenhall, on Tuesday, December 2, 1890, at Six for Seven o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions of sale which will incorporate the common form conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Society, in the following or such other lots as may be decided upon at the time of sale.....

Lot 7. All that Valuable Beerhouse, known as the MARKET TAVERN, No.18, Market Place, with all necessary Outbuildings, as shown on Sale Plan, and is let on annual tenancy to Messrs. Banks and Co., at the very low net rental of £36 per annum.....

The Auctioneer wishes to call special attention to this sale, as it is the most important one that has been held in town for a considerable number of years, and it embraces a class of property that very seldom finds its way into the public market.

For further particulars and to inspect plans, apply to the Auctioneer, 2, New Road, Willenhall; or to Mr. John Clark, Solicitor,

Willenhall.”

1891 Census

18, Market Place

- [1] *Daniel Baker* (53), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Fanny Baker* (53), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Maria Mason* (20), domestic servant, born Chase Town:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1891

“At the County Petty Sessions, yesterday, *Daniel Baker*, at present holder of the license of the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall, applied for the transfer of the license of the STORES, Cross Street, Willenhall, from *John Appleby*, the present tenant, to himself. Chief-superintendent Longden questioned the applicant with regard to betting transactions, and opposed the application on the ground that Baker was mixed up with racing men and bookmakers. The transfer was refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/5/1891

“*Daniel Baker*, of the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall, applied for the licence of the STORES INN, Cross Street, Willenhall, to be transferred from *John Appleby* to himself. Chief Supt. Longden opposed the application on the ground that the applicant was associated with racing men and bookmakers. The applicant said he had given up betting. The application was refused.”

Birmingham Mail 10/3/1906

“Air-Gun Shooting. The League Tables.

It is not every air-gunner who takes an interest in figures (except perhaps his own particular league table), but to those who do, probably a summary of the 33 league tables which appeared in last week’s issue will provide congenial reading, as showing the ups and downs which most clubs experience during a league season. Eight clubs have successfully resisted all attacks so far this season, and hold an unbeaten record, viz.....

Sixteen clubs have weathered through every match successfully (except on one occasion), viz.....

MARKET TAVERN (Willenhall), 17 matches.”

1911 Census

MARKET TAVERN

- [1] *Samuel Storer* (38), publican, born Portobello;
- [2] *Mary Ann Storer* (39), wife, married 7 years, assisting in the business, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Norah Storer* (6), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Ann Maria Porter* (71), aunt, born Willenhall:

Samuel Storer, beer retailer, 18, Market Place. [1912]

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/10/1915

“Wolverhampton County Court. Wednesday. (Before N. C. A. Neville, Esq., Stipendiary.)

Defence of the Realm Act. *William Henry Hall*, licensee of the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall, was charged with having kept open his premises during prohibited hours, and three men and three women were summoned for aiding and abetting.

Mr. W. A. Foster explained that the proceedings were instituted under a military order issued by Colonel Yale, commanding the 38th-64th Regimental District, which came into operation on August 2. It was alleged that on September 10 *Hall* allowed a number of people to be on his premises at 11.25, consuming intoxicating liquor for more than two hours after the house should have been closed for such consumption, whether the liquor had been paid for or not. Though stringent, Mr. Foster urged it was the bounden duty of licensed victuallers to carry out the regulations, and said the maximum penalty for a breach was £100, or in default of payment six months’ imprisonment.

The circumstances were detailed by Police-serjeant Evans, who said he saw six men and a woman seated in a well-lighted room at the rear of the house. As the blinds were not drawn, he saw there were glasses containing beer about. The sergeant said he thought the gathering was a genuine invitation to supper in connection with two men who had left the police force at Willenhall to join the Mounted Military Police.

Mr. Turton said that Mr. *Hall*, who had no previous experience of the licensed trade, had made a bona-fide mistake and was not guilty of a wilful infraction of the order.

Mr. Neville said it was imperative that the terms of the order should be strictly carried out, and offenders who were brought before him in future would be strictly dealt with. The summons against the landlord would be dismissed on payment of costs – £3 9s 6d – and the summons against the other defendants would be dismissed on payment of the court costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/2/1916

“Wolverhampton County Licensing Sessions were held yesterday, Sir Charles Mander, Bart., presiding.

Reporting on the Willenhall division, Superintendent Rowbotham said there was one license to every 212 persons. There was a decrease of 33 males and an increase of two females convicted compared with the preceding year. Superintendent Moss reported on the Tettenhall division that 57 males and 4 females were convicted of drunkenness, compared with 103 males and 10 females in the previous year.

Mr. T. B. Adams (magistrate) remarked that there had been an attempt to evade the Board of Control regulations by reducing the price of beer. The bench would certainly view in a serious light such evasion of the spirit of the Order. It was not stopping the 'long pull' if licensed victuallers were going to reduce the price of beer.

The TURF TAVERN, Penn Common, and the BOAT INN, Swindon, were referred to the compensation authority; while the following licenses against which formal objections had been made by the police were renewed: COCK INN, Heath Town; BULL INN; Codsall; GRAPES, Willenhall; GEORGE AND DRAGON, Willenhall; and the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall.

Superintendent Rowbotham informed the bench that in the Willenhall and Bilston districts all the automatic gaming machines had been removed."

Walsall Observer 4/7/1942

"At the recent examinations, held in Birmingham, by the Victoria College of Music, the following pupils were successful in piano-forte playing preparatory honours, Allan David Yeomans, Forest Avenue, and Beryl Pauline *Allen*, the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall. All are pupils of Winifred Yeomans, S.M.A.V.C.M., Forest Avenue, Leamore."

Walsall Observer 22/1/1944 - Personal

"Loving Birthday Greetings to our dear son, Petty Officer William *Allen* (R.N. abroad), of MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall. God grant you a safe and speedy return.

Love from Mom, Dad, Beryl and Leslie."

Walsall Observer 15/4/1944 - Marriages

"On April 8, 1944, at Leamore Wesley Church, by the Rev. Allan Carter, Lesley *Allen*, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. *B. Allen*, of MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall, to Winnie Yeomans, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Yeomans, 'Rambles', Forest Avenue, Leamore, Walsall."

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

[1984]

It was renamed BARREL AND SHIVE. [2000]

[2007]

It closed in 2008.

It reopened in 2011.

[2012]

It became a shop. [2016]

BEEHIVE

41, New Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Rees William Burnish [1850] – [1860]

Mrs. Elizabeth Burnish [1861] – [1865]

James Hough [1869] – [1879]

John Brooks [1881]

James Davis (1882 – []

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Rees William Burnish, retailer of beer, Portobello. [1850]

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/1/1850 - Advert

“Mr. Leedam will Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Burnish*, BEEHIVE INN, Portobello, near Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, on Monday, the 21st day of January, 1850, at four o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions to be then and there produced.

All those three Brick and Slate Freehold Messuages, or Dwelling-Houses, and Gardens behind the same, situate and being in New Street, in Porto Bello aforesaid, and now in the respective occupations of Peter Williams, Josh. Davis, and Thomas Vaun.

To view the property, apply to Mr. *Burnish*, BEEHIVE INN; and for further particulars, at the Office of Mr. Perks, Solicitor, Burton-upon-Trent.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/7/1858

“On Monday and yesterday (Tuesday), the members of the following societies partook of their annual feasts at the inns at Willenhall or Portobello, where they respectively hold their meetings, namely the Independent Order of Oddfellows, at the BEEHIVE.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/6/1859

“An inquest was held on Saturday last, at the BEEHIVE INN, Portobello, by T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner, on the body of Richard Jordan, sixty-nine years of age, who was found suspended to the stair railing of an unoccupied house in New Street there on the previous day. The deceased, who lived with his daughter and her husband, was in tolerable circumstances, but had been heard to complain a good deal of the low price he had obtained for some property that he had recently sold. His walking-stick was found in a corner of the room near the stairs, and his hat upon the railing. The Jury found that the deceased had Destroyed Himself in a fit of Insanity.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/7/1859

“On Monday last, the anniversaries of the following societies were celebrated: Lodge 1, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Wolverhampton Unity, at the house of Mr. Reeves. The chair was filled by Mr. Waterhill. Lodge 493 of Free Gardeners, at Host Siddons’s. The Miners’ Delight Lodge of the Reform Order of Odd Fellows walked in procession, and afterwards listened to an excellent sermon by the Rev. T. W. Fletcher, after which they dined together at the BEEHIVE INN, Portobello.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/2/1860

“The adjourned inquest upon the body of James Robinson, a collier, whose dead body was found in a pool of water at Portobello, under the circumstances described in our paper of the 1st inst, was resumed at Mr. *Burnish*’s, the BEEHIVE public house, Portobello, on Tuesday last, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner. Mr. J. Hartill, surgeon, who had been deputed to make a post mortem examination, stated that the internal organs were in a healthy condition, and that the bruise upon the neck of the deceased was caused by the body having fallen in the position in which it was found. He also gave his opinion that death had ensued from suffocation produced by drowning. The jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

Reece William Burnish died in the 2nd quarter of 1860.

1861 Census

New Street, Portobello – BEE HIVE

- [1] *Elizabeth Burnish* (52), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Tipton;
- [2] Elizabeth Burnish (31), daughter, born Bilston;
- [3] Jane Burnish (25), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] John Burnish (18), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Sarah A. Burnish (17), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] William R. Burnish (15), son, bricklayer, born Willenhall;
- [7] William Gee (40), brewer, born Lichfield:

Elizabeth Burnish, retailer of beer, Portobello. [1862]

E. Burnish, beer retailer, New Street, Portobello. [1865]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

James Hough, BEE HIVE, Portobello, 1s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/1/1878

“William Riley, who said he came from Derby, was brought up in custody charged with being on enclosed premises with intent to commit a felony. A man named *James Hough*, who keeps the BEEHIVE, in New Street, Portobello, said that he found the prisoner at seven o’clock in the morning suspiciously lurking about a fowl pen in his (witness’s) yard. Prisoner: I am a stranger in these

parts, and I lost my road. Mr. Spooner: You lost your road in a ‘fowl’ way. (Laughter.) You will go to prison for 14 days’ hard labour for trying to steal fowls.”

London Gazette 17/10/1879

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation instituted by *James Hough*, of the BEEHIVE INN, New Street, Portobello Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above named person has been summoned on the 29th day of October, 1879.....”

1881 Census

41, New Street, Portobello – BEEHIVE

[1] *John Brooks* (56), publican, born New Invention;

[2] *Caroline Brooks* (51), wife, born Dawley, Shropshire;

[3] *Enoch Brooks* (10), son, scholar, born Short Heath, Staffordshire;

[4] *Caroline Brooks* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall:

BEEHIVE

44, Wednesfield Road, Little London, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

George Churchill

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1920]

LICENSEES

George Churchill* [1856]

George Churchett* [1858]

John George [1858]

Thomas Marsh [1861] – [1874]

Joseph Wolverton [1883]

Titus William Watkins [1901]

George Hargrave [1931]

NOTES

It had an ante’69 beerhouse license.

Meetings of the Grand Independent Order of Loyal Caledonian Corks were held here.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1856

“Mr. Foster Gough, attorney, applied for a license on behalf of Mr. *George Churchill*, BEE HIVE, Little London, fronting the Wednesfield Road. Mr. Gough urged that on the Wednesfield Road the nearest public house was 736 yards off; the population had materially increased since the granting of the last license, thirteen years ago, three collieries had been opened, for the sake of the men employed at which a house for the sale of spirits was wanted in case of accidents. The house was rated at £21, and was the property of the applicant, and no complaint had been made against him for the manner in which it had been conducted heretofore. Mr. Underhill opposed the application on the part of the proprietors of the HOPE AND ANCHOR and the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, who alleged that their houses would be materially injured if this additional license was granted. The BEE HIVE was only 126 yards distance from the HOPE AND ANCHOR, and 147 from the WAGGON AND HORSES. He contended that the increase of population in the district had been comparatively small, and there was no necessity for a new licensed house. Application refused.”

* possibly the same person

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/1/1858 - Advert

“To Be Sold, a 5-horse power Beam Engine, properly fitted, complete, and in good condition. Apply, for price, &c., to Mr. *George Churchett*, BEEHIVE INN, Little London, Willenhall.”

Birmingham Journal 9/10/1858 - Advert

“By Messrs. Watkins and Russell, at the BEEHIVE INN, Little London, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, on Monday, the 18th day of October, 1858, at six o'clock in the evening, and subject to conditions, the undermentioned Valuable Freehold Properties, and in the following or such other Lots as may be determined at the time of Sale.....

Lot 3. A Freehold Messuage and Public House, known as the BEEHIVE INN, situated adjoining lot 2, and fronting the Wednesfield Road, aforesaid, with convenient Yard, Brewhouse, and Stables at the back; the whole containing an area of 229 square yards, and now in the occupation of Mr. *John George*.....”

Thomas Marsh, beer retailer, Little London. [1861], [1865]

1861 Census

Wednesfield Road

- [1] *Thomas Marsh* (28), locksmith, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Harriet Marsh* (23), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Sarah Marsh* (3), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Mary Marsh* (18 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Harriet Marsh* (1 month), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Jane Taylor* (16), housemaid, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Eliza Painter* (14), nurse, born Willenhall:

Thomas Marsh, retailer of beer, Little London. [1862]

Thomas Marsh, beer retailer, Wednesfield Road. [1868], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

44, Wednesfield Road

- [1] *Thomas Marsh* (39), padlock smith and beerhouse keeper, BEEHIVE INN, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Harriet Marsh* (35), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Sarah Elizabeth Marsh* (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Mary Marsh* (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Thomas James Marsh* (4), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Clara G ____ Marsh* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Florence Vic Marsh* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Fanny Badey* (19), general servant, born New Village:

Midland Counties Evening Express 24/11/1874

“*Thomas Marsh*, landlord of the BEE HIVE INN, Little London, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house on the 16th November imposed a fine of 20s and costs.....”

London Gazette 24/4/1883

“The Bankruptcy Act. 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Joseph Wolverton*, of the BEE HIVE INN, Little London, in the parish of Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the LION HOTEL, Lichfield-street, Willenhall aforesaid, on the 7th day of May, 1883, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 19th day of April, 1883.”

1901 Census

Wednesfield Road – BEE HIVE

- [1] *Titus William Watkins* (53), publican and locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Watkins* (49), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Arthur Watkins* (3), grandson, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Nellie Lander* (17), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

[1908]

South Staffordshire Times 14/2/1920

“County Licensing Sessions Superintendent Higgs, in his report, stated that the licensing justices had visited the Willenhall district, and viewed certain houses under the Redundancy Act, and recommended the following be scheduled, and heard at the adjourned Licensing Sessions:

GEORGE AND DRAGON, Cannon Street; HADDONS Beerhouse, Bray Street; BUTCHERS ARMS, Wolverhampton Street; and the BEEHIVE, Little London.”

South Staffordshire Times 6/3/1920

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

In the case of the BEEHIVE, Little London, Willenhall, which was recommended to be scheduled on the grounds there were several other beerhouses in the immediate neighbourhood, that the trade was small, and that the accommodation was not up to modern requirements, Mr. Willes opposed the recommendation on behalf of the owners, Banks Brewery Company, Limited, and the tenant, Mr. Kimberley, and contended that the house was needed for regular trade and for the use of a friendly society, and that the structural condition had not been complained of, the house being an ‘ante- ‘69’ house.

Mr. C. N. Wright appeared to oppose a similar application in the case of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Cannon Street, Willenhall. PS Tucker had reported the house on grounds that of the five houses within 130 yards this was in the worst structural condition. The house tenanted by licensee Saunders, is the property of Butlers Brewery.”

South Staffordshire Times 17/7/1920

“The following licenses were refused at the principal meeting of the compensation authority for the county held at Stafford on Thursday.....

Mr. V. G. Millard was successful in obtaining the renewal of the BUTCHERS ARMS and BEEHIVE, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/5/1931

“The Licensing (Consolidation Act), 1910. County of Stafford.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1901, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Monday, the 27th day of July, 1931, at 11 o’clock am.

And Notice Is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation Act), 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

BEEHIVE INN, Willenhall. Beerhouse ante 1869. Licensee, *George Hargrave*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/8/1931

“The principal meeting of the Staffordshire Compensation Authority was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Monday, Mr. T. B. Adams (chairman) presiding. Ten cases had been referred to the Authority by the Licensing Justices below, and in three of these applications were successfully made for the renewal of the licenses.....

Formal applications for the renewal of the following licenses were not granted.....

BEEHIVE INN, Willenhall.”

Lichfield Mercury 8/1/1932

“At Staffordshire quarter sessions, held at Stafford on Tuesday, the County Licensing Committee reported that the number of licenses referred last year from seven divisions and boroughs was ten, seven of which the committee refused to renew, compensation being fixed as follows.....

Willenhall Division: BEEHIVE INN, Willenhall, beerhouse, £2,800.”

Closed

It was demolished before 1945.

BELL

31, (32), (8), Market Place, (Wolverhampton Street), (Cross Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

William Thomas [] – 1763);

Mrs. Mary Thomas (1763 – []

Thomas Wakelam [1822] – [1830]

Joseph Beddow [1833] – [1835]

Henry Wakelam [1834] ?

Thomas Hodgins [1838] – [1839]

Martha Parry [1841] – [1842]

Samuel Marston [1845]
William George Masters [1850] – [1851]
Francis Wakelam [1858] – [1875]
John Lacy [1879]
William H Collumbell [1881]
Sampson Wakelam [1891] – [1896]
Richard Dudley [1901]
William Ashby [1904]
Arthur Hard [1908]
Leonard 'Leo' Plumb [1911] – [1921]
Mrs. Phoebe Sophia Kay (1922 – 1970)
Walter Kay [1923] – [1940]
Dennis Powell [1970s] – [1980s]

NOTES

Cross Street [1828], [1830]
Wolverhampton Street [1841], [1851]
8, Market Place [1871]
32, Market Place [1881], [1891], [1901], [1932], [1940]
31, Market Place [2003]

OLD BELL [1864], [1865], [1905], [1911]
BELL HOTEL [1880]
BELL VAULTS [1892], [1896], [1904], [1908]

It was Grade II listed.

A tunnel ran from the cellar to Samuel Parker Ltd., New Road.

It opened c.1660, and is believed to be the oldest building in Willenhall, and Walsall Metropolitan Borough.

It was a coaching house.

William Thomas married *Mary* Clemson.
He died in 1763. *Mary* died in 1791.

Thomas Wakelam = *Thomas Wakelan*

Joseph Beddow = *Joseph Beddows*
He was also a blacksmith. [1833]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1838 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, an old established Public House, with a Liquor Shop, handsomely fitted up, centrally situate in Willenhall. The rent and payments very moderate. The proprietor is leaving solely on account of other engagements, and if requisite will remove his stock of wines and spirits.
For further particulars apply (if by letter post-paid) to Mr. *Thomas Hodgins*, BELL INN, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/3/1839 - Advert

“A Building Society will commence on Tuesday, the 12th of March, instant, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Hodgins*, the BELL INN, Willenhall, where articles and particulars may be seen on application.
The increasing population of Willenhall calls loudly for an increased accommodation by the building of houses, and when it is borne in mind that colliery and mining establishments are daily increasing in the neighbourhood, the benefit of such a Society must be obvious.”

1841 Census

Wolverhampton Street
[1] *Martha Parry* (60), victualler, born Staffordshire;
[2] *Thomas Parry* (14), born Staffordshire;
[3] *Eustace Rowland* (50), ms;
[4] *John Rowland* (25), ms, born Staffordshire:

1851 Census

Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *William George Masters* (28), wine and spirit merchant, born Bexley, Kent;
- [2] Ann Masters (22), wife, born Alvechurch, Worcestershire;
- [3] Emily Ann Masters (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Elizabeth Jane Masters (3), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Louisa Jane Masters (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Ann Masters (58), mother in law, born Bexley, Kent;
- [7] Hannah Holden (20), house servant, born Wormlaton (?), Staffordshire:

William George Masters – see also BEEHIVE, Dudley Street, Wolverhampton, and LION, Bilston.

Francis Wakelam = Francis Wakelin

1871 Census

8, Market Place

- [1] *Francis Wakelam* (51), spirit merchant, born Willenhall;
- [2] Maria Wakelam (36), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Edgar Wakelam (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Jeffery Wakelam (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Sarah Wakelam (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Frank Harry Wakelam (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Harriet Farmer (20), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Midland Counties Evening Express 15/2/1875

“Mr. *Francis Wakelam*, of the Market Square, was this day summoned before the Rev. S. Fisher and R. D. Gough Esq., for that he did, on Tuesday, the 2nd of February instant, unlawfully keep open his premises during prohibited hours. According to the evidence of Police-constable Ainsworth, it appeared that on the evening in question he visited defendant’s premises, where he found seven gentlemen seated in a back room, and a number of glasses upon the table. One of the gentlemen, upon being spoken to upon the subject of their being there, said they were private friends, and called for a bottle of champagne. In cross examination, the officer stated that he looked at his watch which, by the Old Church, was twenty minutes past eleven. He further stated that the landlord, upon the gentleman asking for the champagne, said, ‘No, you cannot have any; you were asked to go long ago.’ He also admitted that the gas was lighted, and that there was no attempt at concealment, that five of the gentlemen were standing up, and that for all he knew ‘they might have been leaving the room.’ The landlord stated to him that nothing had been drawn since eleven o’clock, and that he had instructed the gentlemen to leave the premises before he (the officer) had come in.

Mr. Barrow [defence], in a forcible address, said that he approached the Bench with great confidence, inasmuch as his client had kept the house he now occupied for the space of 18 years, during which time no shadow of a doubt had been expressed as to the mode in which the house had been conducted The magistrates consulted for some short time, and the Chairman stated that, considering the fact that the landlord had kept his house for so many years without complaint, and that he had refused to supply the champagne when asked for, and believing that he had done all he could to clear his house at the proper time, they had come to the conclusion to dismiss the summons.”

Francis Wakelam – see also DOG AND PARTRIDGE.

Walsall Advertiser 29/6/1880 - Advert

“To Be Let, The BELL HOTEL, Market Place, Willenhall.
Apply to Edward Freeland, Fazeley, Tamworth.”

1881 Census

32, Market Place

- [1] *William H. Collumbell* (27), publican, born Derby;
- [2] Catherine Collumbell (28), wife, born Derby;
- [3] Annie L. Collumbell (3), daughter, born Derby;
- [4] William H. Collumbell (2), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Charles Collumbell (21), brother, butcher, born Derby;
- [6] Bessy Oldham (10), niece, born India;
- [7] Jane Saunders (21), general servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

32, Market Place

- [1] *Sampson Wakelam* (33), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Eliza Worthington (35), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [3] Clara Wakelam (16), sister, general servant, born Willenhall;
- [4] Charles Phillips (9), visitor, scholar, born Willenhall:

Sampson Wakelam – see also OLD OAK.

1901 Census

32, Market Place

- [1] *Richard Dudley* (53), hotel manager, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Emma Dudley* (53), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Edith Maud Dudley* (21), daughter, clerk (provision dealer), born Willenhall;
- [4] *Lilian May Mary Dudley* (20), daughter, dressmaker, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Vincent Augustine Dudley* (15), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Ethel Gertrude Dudley* (9), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Prudence Blackham* (17), general servant, born Moxley;

Walsall Advertiser 21/1/1905

“On Monday the half-yearly meeting in connection with the Bilston, Walsall, and Cannock district of Free Gardeners was held at the OLD BELL INN, Willenhall.”

1911 Census

Market Place – BELL INN

- [1] *Leo Plumb* (39), licensed victualler, born Little Compton, Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Margaret Ellen Plumb* (40), wife, married 18 years, born Bromsgrove;
- [3] *Leonard Plumb* (17), son, hairdresser, born Bromsgrove;
- [4] *George Plumb* (15), son, born Bromsgrove;

South Staffordshire Times 2/6/1923

“Bilston Police Court.”

Albert Parham, of Gipsy Lane, Willenhall, was charged with refusing to quit the BELL INN, Market Place, Willenhall; also with assaulting the landlord (*Walter Kay*); with being drunk and disorderly in the Market Place; and with assaulting Police-constable Illsley.

The evidence showed that defendant was creating a disturbance at the BELL INN, and when requested to leave the house became abusive and struck the landlord. On going into the street he created further disturbance. PC Illsley intervened, and then defendant became very violent. He struck the officer several blows, and it was with great difficulty defendant was taken into custody. Inspector Young appealed to the Bench to make an example of defendant, with a view to protecting the police. Defendant was fined a total sum of £6 and costs, £5 of the fine being for the assault on the constable.”

[2003]

Closed [2006], [2012]

It was damaged in an arson attack in September 2006.

Express & Star 25/6/2008

“The BELL INN, in Market Place, Willenhall, is the oldest pub surviving in the town. But the Grade II listed building has been left looking the worse for wear since it closed four years ago. It has since become a target for squatters, vandals and arsonists. Built in 1660, the site is due to be restored to its former glory as a Black Country boozier with council building preservation staff working with the owners.

The public house overlooking the market quenched the thirst of local people for more than 340 years before it was boarded up. The pub was run for many years by former boxer *Dennis Powell* and his wife Olive who lived there for about two decades until the 1980s.

Councillor Carl Creaney, of Willenhall South ward, said he was hoping the premises would eventually be restored to its former glory and reopened for business following a spate of fires.

The BELL is a survivor of a huge fire that destroyed the town in 1659.”

It was bought for £40,000 by members of the Willenhall Heritage Trust in 2010.

Check Wolverhampton Street.

BIRD IN HAND

Cross Street, (Upper Lichfield Street), ([Union Passage](#)), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Hughes ~~[1858]~~=[1861] []
Cornelius Duckett [1884]
Mark Bristow [1885]
Leonard Pace [1892]
D Baker [1896]
Arthur Fortnam [1904]
James Lloyd [1908] – [1910]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/5/1854 - Advert

“To Be Let, and entered upon immediately, the BIRD IN HAND, Cross Street, Willenhall, now doing a good business. The present proprietor is leaving in consequence of other engagements. The fixtures to be taken at a valuation. Apply to Mr. H. W. Greaser, auctioneer, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/2/1858

“*William Hughes*, a butty collier at Willenhall, was charged with paying to a miner named Roberts 10s at the BIRD IN HAND, at Willenhall, on the 23rd of January, and 10s at the same place on the 6th of February. The house was formerly kept by the defendant, but he has now given it up. The complainant swore that on each occasion the defendant’s doggy called him out of the house and paid him the money close to the door, after which they both returned into the house. The Magistrates inflicted a penalty of £7 10s and costs in the one case, and £5 and costs in the other.”

[These cases were brought under the Truck Act.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/7/1858

“*William Hughes*, late of Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Butty Miner, previously of the OAK INN, Waterfall Lane, Rowley Regis, in the said county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Butty Miner, and during part of the same time being in partnership with Thomas Lister, and carrying on business under the style or firm of Hughes and Lister, as Butty Miners, at the Waterfall Lane Colliery, Rowley Regis aforesaid, previously of the BIRD IN HAND, Cross Street, Willenhall aforesaid, Beerhouse Keeper and Butty Miner, part of the time being a Grocer, Provision and Flour Dealer, and part of the same time being in partnership with William Pritchard, and carrying on business under the style or firm of Hughes and Pritchard, as Butty Miners, at the Eagle Colliery, Rowley Regis aforesaid.

William Overell, 36, Warwick Street, Leamington Priors, and 3, Cherry Street, Birmingham. Insolvents Attorney.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/6/1861

“During the night of Saturday last some thieves broke into a beerhouse at Ashmore Lake, occupied by Mr. *William Hughes*, and the thirsty marauders, not satisfied with what provisions and cigars they could lay their hands on, took six dozen pint bottles of porter. They effected an entrance into the house by removing the pantry window.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/1/1884

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Cornelius Duckett*, landlord of the BIRD IN HAND beerhouse, Cross Street, was fined 20s and costs for being drunk while in charge of a horse and trolley. Defendant, it was stated, ran against the tramcar at Portobello.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1885

“Yesterday, at Willenhall Police Court, *Mark Bristow*, keeper of the BIRD IN HAND beerhouse, Cross Street, was fined £1 and costs, and his license was also endorsed, for permitting drunkenness.

On the evening of the 18th inst Police-sergeant Hands and Police-constable Kinson found in the house a drunken man and three others in nearly a similar state. Kinson stated that the defendant’s wife repeatedly offered him a glass of ale, but that he refused it. For being drunk on these licensed premises Enoch Cooper, locksmith, Little London, was fined £1 and costs, or a month’s hard labour.”

Leonard Pace was also a key maker of Wednesfield Road. [1892]

Birmingham Daily Post 16/6/1892 - Advert

“Pianist (Lady) Wanted; to live in.
BIRD IN HAND, Lichfield Street, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1910

“Wolverhampton annual licensing sessions public houses were too numerous in Willenhall district. Most of the licences were renewed, but several were deferred until the adjourned sessions. The Chairman stated that at the adjourned sessions they would consider the question of referring for compensation BIRD IN HAND, Union Passage, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/3/1910

“Adjourned licensing sessions for the Seisdon division of the county.....
The magistrates considered objections to the renewal of four licenses at Willenhall on the ground of redundancy....
Supt. Pilliner stated, in the case of the BIRD IN HAND, Upper Lichfield Street, that there were 23 alehouses, 30 beer houses, one beerhouse ‘off,’ and two grocers’ licenses – 56 in all – within 500 yards of the house No opposition was offered to these licenses being referred for compensation.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/7/1910

“On Friday the principal meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shirehall, Stafford Licenses refused.....
BIRD IN HAND, Willenhall, ante-1869 beerhouse.”

Lichfield Mercury 6/1/1911

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee stated that at the principal meeting the committee refused to renew 27 licenses. At the supplemental meetings the committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard, upon oath, evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee considered that the amounts of compensation agreed upon were satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.....
BIRD IN HAND, Willenhall, beerhouse ante 1869, £650.”

BIRD IN HAND

73, (74), High Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1961]
Enterprise Inns Ltd. [1991]

LICENSEES

John Fisher [1841] – [1871]
William Storer [1872] – [1876]
Joseph Herbert Wootton [] – **1881**);
William Anderson (**1881** – [1892]
H S Sheldon [1896]
Joseph Jeavons [1901] – [1912]
Mrs. Clara Jeavons [1916] – [1921]
Reuben Jefcoat [1932] – [1940]
M K Newman [1988]
Mary Smith [] – **1995**);
John Swift (**1995** – []

NOTES

74, High Street [1891], [1901]
73, High Street [1939]

1841 Census

Portobello

- [1] *John Fisher* (35), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Fisher (35), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Thomas Fisher (14), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Lavinia Fisher (3), born Staffordshire;

Birmingham Journal 27/11/1847

“At the Police Court on Wednesday, a young man named William Round was placed at the bar charged with cutting and wounding Jeremiah Vaughan, a miner, on Monday night last. The complainant stated that he was dancing along with the prisoner and others at the BIRD IN HAND, public house, Portobello, and in the course of the evening the prisoner came to him and told him some man had drunk his glass of rum, and wished to know if the complainant wished to fight for him, providing he (Round) struck the offender. Witness declined doing so, and a quarrel arose between them in consequence, and they went outside, and had a fight, when during the struggle Round cut him on the back part of one of his legs. Upon this evidence the prisoner was remanded till Friday, to procure the evidence of a medical man, and some of those present at the affray, who, it was intimated, were purposely absent.”

John Fisher was also a corn dealer. [1851]

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *John Fisher* (48), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Elizabeth Fisher (48), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Lavinia Fisher (13), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Mr. Pinchard applied for Mr. W. Perry, of the RED LION, Brickkiln Street, Portobello, stating in the course of his remarks, that the rent of the house was £31 a year, and the number of houses in that locality had very much increased.

Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mr. George Davis, in the same street. He stated that there were 120 houses already inhabited, that his client’s house cost £800 and that it afforded more accommodation than that of Mr. Perry. He handed in a testimonial signed by several of the inhabitants and also a letter from the Rev. T. W. Fletcher who observed that in his opinion no candidate from the district had greater claims or was more worthy of being trusted with a license.

Mr. Hayes opposed both applications on behalf of Mr. *Fisher*, landlord of the BIRD IN HAND, and of Mr. Siddons, of the GOUGHS ARMS, Portobello. There were only 1,039 houses in that part of Portobello, and the number of houses in the entire district of St. Stephen, which went up to the Market Place, in Willenhall, was 2,826.

Mr. Underhill replied, stating that for every thousand inhabitants there was only one licensed house. The district had been increasing for the last few years. Mr. Pinchard also replied, observing that he thought other innkeepers ought to act upon the principle of ‘Live and let live.’

The Magistrates, after some consideration, refused both applications.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1854

“George Williams, a dissipated looking man, was on Thursday examined before R. D. Gough, Esq., on the charge of stealing a silver watch from the person of his brother, a miner, living at Wolverhampton. The prosecutor stated that on the previous Monday he attended his club feat at the house of Mr. *Fisher*, the BIRD IN HAND, Portobello. He left that house about four o’clock, and went to the PLOUGH, at Willenhall, where he met the prisoner. He continued drinking there until about ten o’clock at night, and being rather overcome with liquor, fell asleep on the screen. When he awoke he proceeded to Portobello, and there missed his watch. On the following morning he returned to Willenhall to inquire after it. From information received he went to Mr. Saunders, the parish constable, who accompanied him to the PLOUGH, and apprehended the accused. He subsequently saw the watch in the possession of the constable. William Saunders, the constable referred to, proved apprehending the prisoner, who admitted taking the watch, but said he did not mean to keep it. He (the accused) added, ‘I got among some Willenhall chaps, and you know what they are.’ The watch was eventually traced to the possession of a man named Walter Summerfield, to whom the accused had sold it for £1 0s 6d. The prisoner was committed for trial.”

John Fisher was described as a maltster. [1864], [1865], [1871]

1861 Census

Portobello

- [1] *John Fisher* (59), maltster and victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Eliza Fisher (50), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] William Walker (50), brewer, born Wolverhampton:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/11/1865

“Wolverhampton County Court This was a case heard on Saturday, in which the plaintiff, *John Fisher*, licensed victualler, of the BIRD IN HAND, Portobello, sued to recover from Sarah Roberts (whose husband is in America), greengrocer, of the same place, the sum of £5, which she had obtained from him under somewhat singular circumstances. Mr. J. E. Underhill appeared for the plaintiff, but the defendant was not represented by a solicitor. From Mr. Underhill’s opening statement – which was borne out by the evidence of the plaintiff and other witnesses – it appeared the defendant was in the habit of borrowing small sums from

the plaintiff every Wednesday, to enable her to make her purchases in the Wolverhampton market, and on the 28th September last she asked Mrs. *Fisher* to lend her 8s. In order to comply with this request, Mrs. *Fisher* had to go to a safe, from which she took what she thought to be a 5s packet of copper, and, with 3s, gave it to the defendant. In a few hours afterwards the plaintiff found that his wife had given a £5 packet of silver in mistake for a packet of copper, and sent her to Mrs. Roberts about it, but the latter replied that being under the impression that the packet contained only copper, she had given it unopened to a man in the Wolverhampton market in payment for some pears. Plaintiff at once made inquiries in the matter, and ultimately found out the man of whom defendant had purchased the pears, but he at once said that she had paid him for the fruit in silver. Mrs. *Fisher*, Mrs. Pearson (plaintiff's daughter), and a man named Woolley, from whom the pears had been purchased, confirmed this statement, and a boy said that he saw the defendant in the market with her hand full of silver. The defendant had further told plaintiff that pears were the only fruit she purchased on that day, but in answer to his Honour, she said that although she might have so stated 'in the flurry of the moment', yet in reality she also purchased a 'pot' of apples, and she now believed that she paid away the packet for the apples. She further said that she was certain that the contents of the packet were coppers, as she saw the money through a tear in the paper. The Judge, after some consideration, said that the defendant's story was a rather improbable one, inasmuch as she could not produce the man to whom she said she had paid the money in copper, and it did not seem likely that he would accept a packet without examining its contents. Taking these facts into consideration, and looking at the different statements she had made, he must give judgement against her. At the same time, he would say that she had been subjected to a strong temptation, owing to Mrs. *Fisher*'s mistake, and, therefore, as she was unable to pay the money down, he would make the order for payment by monthly instalments of 4s each."

1871 Census

BIRD IN HAND

[1] *John Fisher* (69), maltster employing 1 man, born Willenhall;

[2] *Elizabeth Fisher* (60), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Emma Edwards* (14), domestic servant, born Heath Town;

[4] *James Hill* (29), brewer, born Derby:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/10/1875

"*William Storer*, landlord of the BIRD IN HAND, Portobello, was summoned for being drunk in his own house on the 6th inst., and was fined 10s and costs."

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/4/1876

"*William Storer*, BIRD IN HAND, High Street, Portobello was ordered to pay the mitigated penalty of 25s for having kept a dog without having a license."

Evening Express 15/1/1881 - Advert

"Wanted. Young Man to Play Piano Monday and Saturday evenings.
Apply BIRD IN HAND INN, Portobello."

Evening Express 24/1/1881

"W. H. Phillips, Esq, district coroner, held an inquest this afternoon, at the BIRD IN HAND INN, Portobello, on the body of William Edward Page, aged six years, son of a miner living at that place, named Samuel Page, who was run over by a horse and float on the 10th December last, and who lingered until Friday last, when he died. The deceased was much injured, his right foot and right ribs being fractured, and he was also hurt about the head.

Thomas Pugh, locksmith, of Portobello, deposed that he was returning home from Moseley Village, and when near the MALT SHOVEL, Portobello, he saw the deceased and two other boys pushing a handcart. A horse and float, driven by a man named Owen Cooley, was following the handcart, and as the boys turned it on one side to get out of his way the wheel of the float struck the deceased and ran over him. The man Cooley did not stop his horse to ascertain whether he had hurt the boy.

A boy named William Goodwin, who was with Page at the time the accident happened, said they and another boy were taking a handcart of groceries to Monmore Green. The three boys were pushing the handcart and Cooley drove up behind them. He did not shout to them to get out of the way, but as the boys were pushing the handcart on one side Cooley's cart also turned and ran into them. Page was struck by the right wheel of the float and run over. Cooley was not driving very fast at the time, but after the accident he drove away at a quicker pace. The deceased was picked up by a gentleman and carried to the brook, where some water was sprinkled over his face, and he then became conscious. After the accident witness shouted to Cooley to stop, but although he turned round he did not pull up.

Samuel Galliar, the boy who was with Goodman and the deceased, gave corroborative evidence.

Owen Cooley, after being cautioned by the Coroner, was sworn at his own request, and stated that he was at the time of the occurrence employed as a carter to Mr. A. Hollingsworth, pork butcher, 36, Horseley Fields. Before the accident he saw the three boys with the handcart in the middle of the road. They were crossing over the road, and he pulled his horse to pass on their side, when the right wheel caught the deceased and knocked him down. He heard the boys shout to him, but as he did not know that deceased had been run over he did not stop. He was going at as slow pace.

The Coroner said if he had not driven away he would have avoided the suspicion which had rested upon him that he drove away because he knew he had run over the boy.

A verdict was returned that the boy was Accidentally Killed, and the jury said they thought the man Cooley was highly blameable for driving away.

Cooley was informed of the verdict, and the Coroner said there could be no doubt, both from the evidence of the witnesses who saw the accident, and also of that given by himself, that he knew he had hurt the boy, and it was a piece of great inhumanity on his part not to pull up and satisfy himself as to the injuries that had been inflicted. He was much to blame for leaving the boy on the ground and driving away as he did. As the father of the boy had been put to great expense in medical and other attendance, he trusted that he (Cooley) would render him what assistance he could.

Cooley said he wished he was in a position to assist the father.

Police-constable Bailey stated that, owing to Cooley having shaved his whiskers off since the accident he had some difficulty in tracing him, but eventually he came to Portobello and admitted he ran over the boy.”

1881 Census

High Street, Portobello – BIRD IN HAND

[1] *Joseph Herbert Wootton* (22), draper and innkeeper, born Broseley, Shropshire;

[2] *Caroline Wootton* (23), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Alice Maud Wootton* (1), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Ann Maria Pritchard* (31), general servant, born Shifnal:

Evening Express 30/5/1881

“*Susannah Everitt* (18), of Fishers Yard, Portobello, was charged with stealing a decanter, valued at 3s 6d, the property of *Joseph Herbert Wootton*, of the BIRD IN HAND public house, of the same locality.

The week before last the prisoner borrowed a washing tub from the prosecutor’s wife, and took it back again at night. There was no one in the brewhouse at the time she returned the tub, and she took the decanter from the place and gave it to another person. She pleaded guilty, and was fined 2s 6d, and half the costs.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 27/4/1885

“At Willenhall Court today, *W. Anderson*, landlord of the BIRD IN HAND licensed premises, High Street, Portobello, was summoned for keeping his house open after 2.30pm on Sunday, the 19th inst.

Police-constable Treacy, on passing the house, noticed the door open, and on going in saw four men in the bar, and two jugs and a glass containing ale.

Fined 10s and costs, the license not to be endorsed.

The men above named *Isaac Mason*, *George Mason*, *John Horton*, and *George Robinson*, were each fined 1s and costs for being on licensed premises during prohibited hours.”

1891 Census

74, High Street – BIRD IN HAND

[1] *William Anderson* (41), licensed victualler and locksmith, born Willenhall;

[2] *Elizabeth Anderson* (40), wife, born Bilston;

[3] *Thomas B. Anderson* (15), son, brass caster assistant, born Willenhall;

[4] *Florence H. Anderson* (13), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] *Annie Anderson* (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] *Emily Anderson* (9), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[7] *William Anderson* (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[8] *Violet E. Anderson* (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[9] *Nellie Anderson* (3), daughter, born Willenhall;

[10] *Gertrude E. Anderson* (10 months), daughter, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 15/8/1908

“At the Willenhall Police Court on Monday, before Messrs. H. Vaughan and Dr. J. T. Hartill, *Samuel Pooler* (43), of 31, Rose Hill, Willenhall, was summoned at the instance of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies on three charges of failing as the secretary of the Speedwell Lodge (N.U.O.F.G.), held at the BIRD IN HAND, High Street, Portobello, to send in the annual returns for the lodge for the years 1905, 1906, and 1907 respectively.

Mr. J. Fox (London), solicitor to the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, prosecuted, and pointed out that the annual returns were the only safeguard to the members of the society, and these proceedings were taken entirely in the interest of the members of the lodge.

Defendant pleaded guilty to each charge, and urged that after failing to send in the returns for 1905 he became frightened at the communications from the Chief Registrar. He was very sorry.

Mr. Vaughan, presiding magistrate, said the Bench were opinion there was no excuse for the defendant, who had been given every opportunity by the Chief Registrar. He would be fined £1 1s and costs in each case, total £8 9s 6d or fourteen days’ imprisonment in each case in default of payment. The lodge would be fined 1s and costs in each case, total £1 5s 6d. The gross total amounted to £9 15s.”

1901 Census

74, High Street, Portobello

[1] *Joseph Jeavons* (36), publican, born Coseley;

[2] *Clara Jeavons* (30), wife, born Coseley;

[3] Mary A. Rhodes (24), sister in law, unmarried, domestic servant, born Coseley:

1939 Register

73, High Street

[1] *Reuben Jefcoat*, date of birth 18/7/1894, publican, married;

[2] Emma Jane Jefcoat, dob 2/11/1891, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Ronald Jefcoat, dob 8/7/1921, hosiery salesman, single;

[4] Alan J. Jefcoat, dob 4/8/1927, at school, single:

It was demolished and replaced a short distance away on Willenhall Road, c.1962.

BIRD IN HAND

16, Spring Vale Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Brown [1861] – [1881]

John Careless [1891]

James Warwick Ferguson [1904] – [1912]

J Layzell [1932]

Mrs. Marian Hodson [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Spring Vale Street

[1] *Thomas Brown* (35), publican, born Ludlow, Shropshire;

[2] Lavaner Brown (23), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] E__a Brown (14), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Thomas Brown (10), son, born Portobello;

[5] John Fisher Brown (2), son, born Portobello:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

“At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division, Seisdon North, held yesterday.....

Mr. Thurstans supported the application of Mr. Tonks; Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mr. Tipper, of the GEORGE INN, and Mr. Putnam, of the SARACEN’S HEAD. On behalf of the applicant, Mr. Thurstans spoke of the increase in the population in the locality where his client’s house was situated, and also produced a certificate testifying that he was a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license. Mr. Thurstans also applied on behalf of *Thomas Brown*, of the BIRD IN HAND, situated in the same street as the last applicant’s house. This house was stated to be large and newly erected. He said he hardly expected that both the applications would be granted; but he would leave it with the Bench to decide which of the premises were most eligible. Mr. Underhill opposed as before, and stated that he had taken the precaution to inquire as to the applicant’s character from Inspector Thompson, with the view of ascertaining in what way he had conducted his house. Mr. Thurstans objected to any statement being made unless it was afterwards proved in evidence. After some other remarks had been made, Mr. Underhill expressed his willingness to leave the matter in the hands of the magistrates, when they had seen Inspector Thompson and heard what he had to say upon the subject.”

1871 Census

Spring Vale Street

[1] *Thomas Brown* (43), beerhouse keeper, born Ludlow, Shropshire;

[2] Livinia Brown (34), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Martha Aston (14), domestic servant, born Bilston:

1881 Census

16, Spring Vale Street

- [1] *Thomas Brown* (56), beerhouse keeper, born Ludlow, Shropshire;
[2] *Lavinia Brown* (44), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] *Elizabeth Dixon* (15), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

John Careless (27), bricklayer, married *Phebe Macpherson* (20), daughter of *John Macpherson*, (commonly Clark), shingler, on 16th September 1883, at St. Anne's Church.

1891 Census

16, Spring Vale Street – BIRD IN HAND Public House

- [1] *John Careless* (32), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
[2] *M. Phoebe Careless* (28), wife, born Wolverhampton;
[3] *John Careless* (6), son, born Willenhall;
[4] *Sarah Lowbridge* (19), domestic servant, born Lane Head:

1901 Census

16, Spring Vale Street

- [1] *James Brown* (42), widower, ironworker puddler, born Great Bridge;
[2] *James M. Brown* (19), son, ironworker, sheet mill, born Willenhall;
[3] *Lily Brown* (17), daughter, domestic servant, born Willenhall;
[4] *Daisy Brown* (12), daughter, born Willenhall;
[5] *May Brown* (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
[6] *John Careless* (16), cousin, bricklayer, born Willenhall:

James H. Ferguson, beer retailer, Spring Vale Street. [1904]

1911 Census

Spring Vale Street – BIRD IN HAND

- [1] *James Warwick Ferguson* (43), lockmaker and publican, born Willenhall;
[2] *Elizabeth Ferguson* (38), wife, married 15 years, assisting in the business, born Willenhall;
[3] *Reginald Warwick Ferguson* (12), son, school, born Willenhall;
[4] *Alfred Ferguson* (9), son, school, born Willenhall;
[5] *Cyril James Ferguson* (7), son, school, born Willenhall;
[6] *Wilfred Ferguson* (3), son, baby, born Willenhall;
[7] *George Alfred Ferguson* (50), brother, lockmaker, born Willenhall:

James H. Ferguson, beer retailer, 16, Spring Vale Street. [1912]

J. Layzell, beer retailer, 16, Spring Vale Street. [1932]

1939 Register

16, Springvale Street

- [1] *Marian Hodson*, date of birth 14/6/1883, publican, widowed;
[2] *Ernest Morgan*, dob 20/3/1899, foreman storekeeper, married;
[3] *Hilda Morgan*, dob 5/8/1904, unpaid domestic duties, married:

BIRD IN HAND

767, Willenhall Road, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mick Wedlake [1991]
Bachtar Singh Uppall [2004]
Jasbir Kaur [2005] – [2006]

NOTES

It was built c.1962, to replace the original on High Street.

[1983]

Plans to move the food storage and preparation area into the children's room, games room and part of the bottle store, and the toilets near to the entrance, and also to increase the licensed area, were approved on 19th April 2004.

Plans to increase the size of the kitchen and grill area and provide replacement toilets were approved in May 2006.

[2007]

Closed [2008]

It was put up for auction on 27th February 2008.

An application to change the use of the building to a place of worship was submitted in 2009.

It became a temple. [2012]

BLACK BOY

50, New Road, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Charles Bayley [1862] – 1870);
Fanny Bayley (1870 – [1876]
John Crockett [1881] – [1904]
George William Crockett [1911] – [1912]
Ernest Gwilt [1932]
Bertram A Steward [1940]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Charles Bayley, retailer of beer, New Road. [1862]
Charles Bayley, beer retailer, New Road. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/5/1870

“The following transfers on licences were granted on Monday, at the County Police Court.....
Beerhouse Licences: *Charles Bayley* (deceased) to *Fanny Bayley*, New Road, Willenhall.”

1871 Census

New Road

[1] *Fanny Bayley* (60), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
[2] *Clara Beddow* (13), granddaughter, domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

“Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Beerhouses: *Fanny Bailey*, BLACK BOY, Willenhall.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/1/1876

“Local Police Courts. Wolverhampton. Friday. (Before I Spooner, Esq.)

Fanny Bailey, of the BLACK BOY beerhouse, Willenhall, was convicted of selling beer after hours on Christmas Day. Her guilt was made to appear aggravated by Police-constable Ainsworth producing a sovereign which she had given him not to report the case. She was fined £5 and costs, and a summons was ordered to be served upon her for attempting to bribe the policeman.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 15/1/1876

“At the Wolverhampton Police Court, yesterday, before the Stipendiary (Mr. I. Spooner), *Fanny Bayley*, landlady of the BLACK BOY, New Road, Willenhall, was summoned for having attempted to bribe a policeman. Police-constable Ainsworth said that a person entered defendant’s house at 11.30pm on Christmas Day, and came out shortly afterwards with a can of ale. Witness then saw the landlady, and she requested him to overlook the matter. On December 27th he (the officer) again visited the defendant’s house, and she gave him a sovereign, desiring that he would not report the offence of supplying drink. Last week she was fined £5 and costs, and her license endorsed for the illicit sale. His Worship thought that there were no mitigating circumstances in the case, and fined the defendant £5 and costs. Her license would on this occasion not be endorsed.”

1881 Census

50, New Road

- [1] *John Crockett* (39), locksmith and beerseller, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Maria Crockett* (38), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Stephen Crockett* (16), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Mary Crockett* (14), daughter, domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Clara Crockett* (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Sarah Crockett* (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *George Crockett* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [8] *William Bright* (66), widower, father in law, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Louisa Crockett* (1 month), daughter, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

50, New Road

- [1] *John Crockett* (48), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Maria Crockett* (49), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Clara Crockett* (18), daughter, dress maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *George Crockett* (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Sarah Crockett* (14), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Louisa Crockett* (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Fred Crockett* (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Florrie Crockett* (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Frank Crockett* (3), son, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

50, New Road

- [1] *John Crockett* (58), beerseller, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Maria Crockett* (59), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Sarah Crockett* (26), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *George William Crockett* (23), son, carpenter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Louisa Crockett* (20), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Fred Crockett* (18), son, cabinet lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Florence Crockett* (15), daughter, tailoress, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Frank Crockett* (14), son, errand boy, born Willenhall:

John Crockett, beer retailer, 50, New Road. [1904]

1911 Census

50, New Road – BLACK BOY

- [1] *George Crockett* (33), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Elizabeth Crockett* (30), wife, married 4 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Phyllis Irene Crockett* (3), daughter, born Willenhall:

George William Crockett, beer retailer, 50, New Road. [1912]

Ernest Gwilt, beer retailer, 50, New Road. [1932]

Closed

BLACK LION

72, Bloxwich Road, (Monmer Lane), (72, Monmore Lane), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd.
Frank Myatt Ltd. [1934]

LICENSEES

Henry Tart [1861]
John Tart [1863] – [1882]
Thomas Richards [1889] – [1891]
W Townsend [1914]
Albert Bennett [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

Monmore Lane [1861], [1863], [1877], [1889], [1939]
72, Bloxwich Road [1881]
72, Monmore Lane [1891]
Monmer Lane [1914], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Monmore Lane

- [1] *Henry Tart* (63), victualler, born Brewood, Staffordshire;
- [2] Ann Tart (70), wife, born Brewood, Staffordshire;
- [3] Henry Tart (33), son, tailor, born Brewood, Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/11/1861

“In the course of Sunday last a gang of thieves visited Willenhall, and made several attempts to plunder different premises there. About half-past one o’clock they visited the house of Mr. Taylor, Sandbeds, and broke into the brewhouse. Finding nothing there they fetched a ladder out of the foldyard, and got into what proved to be an empty room. They then attempted to break into the house through the kitchen window, but in doing so knocked down an old tea tray, and disturbed Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, who at once got up. The gang then beat a retreat, but before they left the premises, they threw a number of brick ends through the kitchen window, and completely shattered it to pieces. In an hour or two afterwards they visited the house of M. B. Wright, innkeeper, Monmore Lane, and attempted to burst open the brewhouse door. They were heard, and one of the inmates of the house shouted through the bedroom window. One of the gang threw a stone through a bedroom window, and the party decamped. The matter was reported to Inspector Thompson, and yesterday morning the police apprehended four colliers, to whom suspicion pretty clearly points as being the guilty party; in fact, some of them are identified. Their names are George Lockley, Thomas Ecclestone, John Edwards, and Thomas Cholmondley; Cholmondley may be described as a boatman. They will be brought before the magistrates in the course of a day or two.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/11/1861

“Four men named George Lockley, Thomas Ecclestone, John Edwards, and Thomas Chalmondey, who had all been in durance vile since the previous Tuesday were brought before the Rev. G. H. Fisher, and R. D. Gough, Esq., at the Petty Sessions, on Monday last, to answer rather serious charges which were preferred against them. The first case was that of having stolen a drinking glass and a candlestick from the house of Mr. *Henry Tart*, landlord of the BLACK LION, beerhouse, Willenhall. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. *Tart*, sen., that the prisoners were drinking in his son’s beerhouse, for several hours on Sunday afternoon, the 3rd instant, and that in the latter part of the evening when they were no doubt somewhat affected by what they had had to drink, they conducted themselves in a very disorderly manner, so much so that witness, who was in charge of the house at the time, refused to fill them anything more. On this being made known to them they became still more violent than before, and when the servant girl went into the room to remove the pitcher and glass the prisoner Edwards seized hold of the glass and refused to give it up unless they were supplied with more drink, although he was well aware it was then time for the house to be closed. Finding that they could not persuade Mr. *Tart* to acquiesce in their demands they at length left the house and it was discovered that the glass and candlestick were both missing, the candle having been thrown under the table. Mr. Bartlett, who appeared in defence, submitted that only the prisoner Edwards was affected by the evidence, and even as regarded him there was no proof that he had taken the glass with felonious intent. There was more blame attached to the prosecutor for allowing the man to remain drinking in the house so long as they did. As no trace of the stolen articles had yet been discovered the Bench ordered the prisoners to find sureties to answer the charge when called on. The next evidence of a suspicious character against the prisoners was that of a man named Benjamin Wright, residing in Monmore Lane, who stated that on the same Sunday night, between eleven and twelve

o'clock he was awoken by hearing a noise in the back yard, as if someone was trying to get into his brewhouse. He at once got up to his window, and on calling out two men wearing 'billy cocks' rushed across the yard from the direction of the brewhouse, and ran down the entry, and they were afterwards seen in the street in front by one of witness's lodgers. (The prisoners, who all wore 'billy cocks,' were here requested to put them on, but neither Wright nor his lodger were able to speak positively to any of them.) Mrs. Taylor, wife of James Taylor, farmer, residing at what is called the Sandbeds, was next called, and stated that about two o'clock in the morning of the 4th instant she and her husband were awoken by hearing the noise of something falling in the house, as if someone was trying to break in. She immediately got up, and went down stairs. On making an examination of the premises she discovered that an entrance had been attempted by means of a brewhouse adjoining the house, but after getting in here further progress had been impeded by a door, which was well fastened, and the predators had next reared a ladder against the window of a lumber room, but they were here equally unsuccessful in their endeavours to enter the house. On witness making a further examination she found a window in another part of the house wide open, and on her attempting to shut it she was assailed by a shower of brickbats from some persons outside. She immediately screamed of 'Murder,' which had the effect of causing her assailants to leave the premises. In the morning it was discovered that an oven had been pulled down outside, from which had been obtained the bricks that were thrown through the window. A young man, named Emmanuel Jackson, proved meeting the four prisoners about twelve o'clock on the Sunday night, as he was returning home from Walsall. He met them by the canal side, a short distance from the house of the last witness, in which direction they were going at the time. Mr. Bartlett submitted, on behalf of the prisoners, that however suspicious these cases might appear against them, yet at the same time there was no actual proof that they were the same men who had committed the acts complained of. The Bench, after some discussion, considered they were justified in finding the prisoners to find sureties for their future good behaviour."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/9/1863

"On Monday afternoon, an inquest was held at the BLACK LION, Monmore Lane, Willenhall, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of a married woman, aged 23, named Harriet Wright, the wife of a locksmith named Benjamin Wright, who was found dead in the canal, near to Messrs. Solly's furnaces on the previous Saturday.....
A verdict of Found Drowned was returned."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 10/2/1877 - Advert

"Hearts of Oak (London) Benefit Society, Willenhall District.

Members wishing to join the Medical Aid Fund are requested to apply to *John Tart*, BLACK LION, Monmore Lane, Willenhall."

1881 Census

72, Bloxwich Road

- [1] *John Tart* (53), widower, innkeeper, born Calf Heath;
- [2] *Ann Tart* (18), daughter, born Eton;
- [3] *Jane Tart* (16), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Emma Tart* (10), daughter, born Willenhall:

Annie Tart (19), spinster, married *Thomas Richards* (22), bachelor, coal dealer, on 20th August 1882.

Wolverhampton Express and Star 6/7/1889 - Advert

"Brake, with capital glass-panel moveable top, lamps, cushions, &c; too small for present owners.
To view, apply *John Evans*, Peel Street, or *Thomas Richards*, BLACK LION, Monmore Lane, Willenhall."

1891 Census

72, Monmore Lane

- [1] *Thomas Richards* (30), coal dealer and beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Richards* (28), wife, born Windsor;
- [3] *John T. Richards* (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Francis L. Richards* (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Annie Richards* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Lilly Richards* (6 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *John Tart* (64), father-in-law, widower, retired publican, born Calf Heath;
- [8] *Elizabeth Barret* (20), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Samuel Davies* (14), cousin, carter, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

Monmer Lane, Bloxwich Road – BLACK LION INN

- [1] *Thomas Richards* (42), publican and car proprietor, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Richards* (38), wife, born Eton;
- [3] *John T. Richards* (17), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Frances L. Richards* (14), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Anne Richards* (12), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Lily Richards* (10), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *William Richards* (4), son, born Calf Heath;

[8] Emma Richards (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
[9] Jessie G. Hughes (20), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

[1908]

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/2/1914

“Wolverhampton. Thursday. (Before his Honour Judge Howard Smith.)

An action was brought by Miss Catherine J. Cullimball, Stone Street, Bilston, to recover damages from Mr. *W. Townsend*, BLACK LION, Monmer Lane, Willenhall, for injuries sustained while in his employ. She was engaged as a domestic servant at defendant’s house. While scrubbing a floor a pin ran into the forefinger of her right hand. The next day she was washing some linen, and defendant’s wife told her to use in the water a cupful of chloride of lime. At night her injured finger became swollen, and a doctor found she was suffering from blood-poisoning and an operation became necessary. For the defence it was denied that she was injured by a pin. His Honour ordered her to be paid at the rate of 9s per week from Oct. 28 until she is well.”

South Staffordshire Times 4/2/1922

“Willenhall Police Court.

George Hall, formerly a farm bailiff of Ashmore Park Cottage, Wednesfield, was charged with obtaining one pint of ale, value 7d, by false pretences from Edith Male, of the SARACENS HEAD INN, on the 20th ult.

Prosecutrix, the wife of Joseph Benjamin Male, said the defendant came to the house on the morning of the 20th ult., and asked for a pint of beer. She took it to him in the taproom. He began to search his pockets saying he ought to have a pound note in one of them, but he must have left it either in another coat, or on the table at his own house. He then said he passed the house every day, and would pay for the beer on the following day. He entered into a conversation about supplying a rabbit, or a fowl, and prosecutrix said she would have one from him if the price were reasonable. He said he could let her have a fowl for 2s 6d. When defendant left the house prosecutrix became a bit suspicious especially as she saw him enter another public-house and she sent a niece to inform the landlord what had happened.

PC Craddock said he saw defendant at his house in Wednesfield and charged him with the offence. He replied, ‘All right.’

Defendant pleaded guilty, and said he was willing to pay for the ale.

There were three similar charges against defendant in connection with the BLACK LION INN, the BEEHIVE, and the WHITE SWAN, to which defendant also pleaded guilty.

In the first case defendant was fined £1 and costs, and ordered to pay costs in each of the other cases, a total of £4 15s.

Supt. Higgs said that complaints of similar conduct against defendant were made in November and December last, and it was a practice that ought to be stopped. Defendant had rendered himself liable under the new Act, to a penalty of £30 for consuming ale before paying for it.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/4/1934

“Appearing on behalf of Frank Myatt Limited, Birmingham, Mr. E. E. Brown applied for the confirmation of a provisional removal order of the full license of the ANGEL INN, Willenhall, to premises known as the BLACK LION, Willenhall, which at present has a beer-house license. There was no opposition.

Mr. Brown mentioned that the effect of granting the transfer would be that one house in the Willenhall Petty Sessional area would go without any compensation, and that it would facilitate a road-widening scheme. In the area to which it was proposed to remove the license, building of a very substantial character had been going on for the last two or three years.

The application was granted.”

1939 Register

Monmore Lane – BLACK LION (2 of 3)

[1] *Albert Bennett*, date of birth 15/6/1907, licensee and locksmith, married;

[2] *Mary I. Bennett*, dob 21/6/1910, unpaid domestic duties, married;

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, North Division. [1946]

BOARD

New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Bernard Perry [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was listed under Wednesfield in 1834.

It was formerly Neachells Hall.

It was demolished in the 1860s.

BREWERS DROOP

44, (45), Wolverhampton Street / Peel Close, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Jesse Lashford

Mrs. Lashford, Springvale, Willenhall [1920]

Aston Manor Brewery (acquired in September 1983)

Stanford Management, Northampton (acquired for £195,000)

[Gil Tibbetts \[1988\]](#)

LICENSEES

Ruth New [1881]

Thomas Wolverson [1901] – [1904]

John Morris [1911] – [1912]

Frederick Corkindale [1916]

Mrs. Alice Annie Corkindale [1920] – [1932]

William Edward Baker [1940] – [1944]

John Perry (1984 – [])

Colin Lewis [1985]

[Gil Tibbetts \[1988\] – 1998](#);

Alan Faulkner (1998 – [])

NOTES

45, Wolverhampton Street [1881], [1901], [1911], [1940]

44, Wolverhampton Street [1990]

It was formerly the BUTCHERS ARMS [1908], [1911], [1940]

It had an ante '69 beerhouse license.

1881 Census

45, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Ruth New* (36), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;

[2] *Agnes New* (1), daughter, born Pennfields;

[3] *Thomas Thatcher* (50), lodger, beerhouse manager, born Worfield, Shropshire;

[4] *Ann Thatcher* (48), lodger, born Claverley, Shropshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/7/1891

“At the County Police Court, Wolverhampton, yesterday, an application was made for the transfer of the license of the BUTCHERS ARMS INN, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall, to *Henry Badger*, an ex-goods guard. It was stated that the applicant would be the tenant, but on its being ascertained that he would only be paid 7s 6d a week and a commission on the sale of drink, the Bench said it would be to the interest of the applicant to induce people to drink as much as he could, and no public house should be conducted under such conditions. The Bench had made a rule not to appoint managers, and the application was refused.”

1901 Census

45, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Thomas Wolverson* (39), locksmith and beerseller, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Wolverson* (33), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Olive Wolverson* (17), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Bertie Wolverson* (13), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Horace Wolverson* (6), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Frank Wolverson* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Annie Wolverson* (5 months), daughter, born Willenhall:

Thomas Wolverson, beer retailer, 45, Wolverhampton Street. [1904]

1911 Census

45, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *John Morris* (37), gas fitter, born Darlaston;
- [2] *Alice Annie Morris* (38), wife, married 7 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Hugh F. J. Morris* (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Ralph Morris* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Harry S. Morris* (1), son, born Willenhall:

John Morris, beer retailer, 45, Wolverhampton Street. [1912]

Frederick Corkindale married *Alice A. Morris* in the 1st quarter of 1915.

Frederick Corkindale, beer retailer, 45, Wolverhampton Street. [1916]

South Staffordshire Times 14/2/1920

“County Licensing Sessions.....

Superintendent Higgs, in his report, stated that the licensing justices had visited the Willenhall district, and viewed certain houses under the Redundancy Act, and recommended the following be scheduled, and heard at the adjourned Licensing Sessions: GEORGE AND DRAGON, Cannon Street; HADDONS Beerhouse, Bray Street; BUTCHERS ARMS, Wolverhampton Street; and the BEEHIVE, Little London.”

South Staffordshire Times 6/3/1920

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

The license of the BUTCHERS ARMS, Wolverhampton Street, another Willenhall house was similarly recommended. Mr. Bevan appearing in opposition on behalf of the licensee Mrs. *Corkindale*, the manager and owner, Mrs. Lashford, Springvale Willenhall.....

All these houses were stated to be ‘ante ‘69’ beerhouses. There are 36 houses within 500 yards of the BUTCHERS ARMS.”

South Staffordshire Times 17/7/1920

“The following licenses were refused at the principal meeting of the compensation authority for the county held at Stafford on Thursday.....

Mr. V. G. Millard was successful in obtaining the renewal of the BUTCHERS ARMS and BEEHIVE, Willenhall.”

Alice Annie Corkindale nee Butt.

Mrs. *Alice Corkindale*, beer retailer, 45, Wolverhampton Street. [1932]

Walsall Observer 13/5/1944

“There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association, held on Thursday last at the TALBOT HOTEL, Willenhall, when Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair and Mr. T. Hawkins (vice-president) the vice-chair. Mr. *William Baker*, of the BUTCHER’S ARMS, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall, was elected a member of the society. In connection with the ‘Salute the Soldier’ week it was resolved to invest a further £100. The final arrangements were made for the forthcoming charity dance on Friday, May 19, also in connection with the annual box collection.”

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

It was renamed RING OF KEYS. [1976]

It was renamed MANOR FROM HEAVEN in 1984.

It was renamed BREWERS DROOP.

Kils n Kins (Autumn 1992)

“.....The BREWERS DROOP’s first incarnation was as a beerhouse, known as the BUTCHERS ARMS and owned by Lashford’s Brewery of St. Annes Road, Willenhall (now the RUSHBROOKE FARTHING). In 1930 Lashford’s Brewery, its estate of seven pubs, Willenhall greyhound racing track and four acres of land were sold to Truman, Hanbury, Buxton and Co Ltd (brewers) of Stepney, London, for a total of £34,600. At some point following this, the BUTCHERS ARMS was acquired by Courage Brewery, and then c.1983 by the then newly formed Birmingham based Aston Manor Brewery, the name of the pub changing to the MANOR FROM HEAVEN. After standing empty for some time, the pub was bought by the present owner, *Gil Tibbetts*, and following extensive refurbishment reopened in early 1988 in its current guise. The success currently enjoyed by the BREWERS DROOP is the result of hard work, individual style and attention to detail of the current owner and his staff.

In summary, the BREWERS DROOP is now a very pleasant pub with a lot going for it. The sort of pub that we, in CAMRA, would like to see many other examples of; well presented with a selection of real ales on handpump, popular and with a good clientele, providing good food and a wide range of social activities.”

Walsall Branch of CAMRA’s Pub of the Year 1992, 1994 and 1996.

Gil Tibbetts was an ex lorry driver.
He was married to Diane.

Alan Faulkner was married to Ruth.

It was renamed BREWERS. [2007]

Closed [2009]

It was converted into housing.

BRIDGE

1, (2), (147), Bentley Lane, (High Road), (Willenhall Road), Short Heath, (Lane Head), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Johnson and Phipps (acquired on 9th October 1922)
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
InnSpired [2003]

LICENSEES

John Ball [1859] – [1871]
John Pritchard [1871]
Joseph Bladen [1881]
Mary Bladen [1891]
Archibald Fenn [1911]
Timothy Tuckley [1922] – [1940]
Robert Kenneth ‘Bob’ Smith (1991 – 2004)

NOTES

147, Bentley Lane [1881]
Willenhall Road [1891]
2, Bentley Lane [1939]
Lane Head [1940]
1, Bentley Lane

BRIDGE TAVERN [1871], [1940], [1990]

It had a beerhouse license.

John Ball was the great-grandfather of ex-Prime Minister John Major. Abraham Ball was John Major’s grandfather. John Major’s father was music hall performer Tom Major-Ball (ne Abraham Thomas Ball).

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/4/1859

“On Wednesday morning a special sitting of the Justices, the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq, was held at the Police Office, for the purpose of adjudicating upon a number of cases under the Weights and Measures Act. The following is the result of the investigation, costs being granted in each case.....

John Ball, beer-house keeper, Lanehead, against whom there had been four previous convictions, 10s.”

John Ball, beer retailer, Lane Head. [1860], [1861], [1870]

John Ball, retailer of beer, Lane Head. [1862]

1861 Census

Lane Head – Public House

- [1] *John Ball* (36), publican, born Lane Head;
- [2] *Caroline Ball* (35), wife, born Wyrley;
- [3] *Abraham Ball* (12), son, born Lane Head;
- [4] *Isaac Ball* (9), son, born Lane Head;
- [5] *Elizabeth Ball* (6), daughter, born Lane Head;
- [6] *Joseph Ball* (2), son, born Lane Head:

1871 Census

Lane Head – BRIDGE TAVERN

- [1] *John Ball* (45), widower, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Abraham Ball* (22), son, bricklayer, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Isaac Ball* (20), son, carrier, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Ball* (16), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Susan Parton* (32), house keeper, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

“Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Beerhouses: *John Ball*, BRIDGE TAVERN, Short Heath.....”

Joseph Bladen was born in 1829.

1881 Census

147, Bentley Lane – BRIDGE INN

- [1] *Joseph Bladen* (52), publican, born Wombridge, Shropshire;
- [2] *Mary Bladen* (51), wife, born Old Park, Shropshire;
- [3] *Maria Wilkinson* (21), general servant, born Bewdley:

Joseph Bladen died in the 2nd quarter of 1882.

1891 Census

Willenhall Road – BRIDGE TAVERN INN

- [1] *Mary Bladen* (60), widow, publican, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [2] *Seabrough Bladen* (19), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Walsall Observer 22/12/1900

“Last week Mr. T. A. Stokes held an inquest at the BRIDGE TAVERN, Short Heath, relative to the death of *Ruth Henwood* (9), daughter of *James Henwood*, a miner, of Bentley Lane.

The mother’s evidence went to show that deceased, who had long been in failing health, complained of toothache on Monday. A doctor was sent for, but he did not come on that day or the next. On the Wednesday the girl died.

Dr. *Tildesley* said he had made a post mortem examination, and death was due to acute inflammation of the lungs and double pleurisy.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

1911 Census

Lane Head – BRIDGE TAVERN

- [1] *Archibald Fenn* (34), publican, born Short Heath;
- [2] *Nellie Fenn* (32), wife, married 10 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Rachel Vera Fenn* (9), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Howard Archibald Fenn* (6), son, school, born Short Heath;
- [5] *George Reginald Fenn* (2), son, school, born Short Heath;
- [6] *Florance Clark* (14), domestic servant, born New Invention:

South Staffordshire Times 16/12/1922

“Samuel Clift, gasworker, Cross Street, Short Heath, was charged with stealing a copper attemperator, value £10, the property of Johnson and Phipps, brewers, Wolverhampton, between 9th October and 2nd December.

Mr. R. Tildeley appeared for the prosecution, and defendant, who pleaded not guilty, was represented by Mr. Haslam.

Arthur Adam Stanley, traveller for Messrs. Johnson and Phipps, stated that in October last his firm purchased the BRIDGE TAVERN, Short Heath, and all the brewing utensils connected with it. A copper attemperator was included in the latter articles. The premises were taken over on the 9th October, and on that date witness saw the attemperator in a storeroom at the rear of the premises. As it formed part of the brewing plant which had been purchased by prosecutors, it was their property. It was worth at least £10.

Mr. Haslam: Was there any inventory of the things purchased? – Witness: I could not say, but I know that the attemperator formed part of the brewing plant.

Mr. Haslam: How was the price fixed for the plant? – Witness: There was a fixed price for the lot, and I was instructed that the attemperator was included in it.

Levi Johnson, partner in the prosecuting firm, said he and his partner negotiated the purchase of the BRIDGE TAVERN. They purchased the whole of the brewing plant, with trade fixtures, and everything else. He did not see the attemperator on the premises, but whatever there was on the premises for the purpose of brewing was purchased by his firm. No inventory was taken, but the whole plant was purchased for a fixed sum, apart from the purchase of the freehold.

Mr. Haslam: Has the attemperator been used recently? – Witness: I should not think it had been used for a considerable time, but it is a very good one. I do not know of any better.

Timothy Tuckley, the present licensee of the BRIDGE TAVERN, said on the 9th October he saw the attemperator in a storeroom at the rear of the public-house, but it was missing on the 27th November. Defendant had been employed by the former tenant as a temporary barman. Owing to something of his knowledge, witness, on the 27th November, sent for defendant to come to the tavern. When he arrived, witness said to him: ‘Sam, have you any articles at all belonging to the brewing plant bought by Messrs. Johnson and Phipps?’ Defendant replied: ‘No, I haven’t anything at all. The only thing I have is a bit of old timber which Mr. Brownhill gave me.’ Witness then said: ‘If you have anything, and it is only worth sixpence, bring it back, and there will be an end to the matter.’ Defendant thanked witness for the information, and said that if witness would call at his house next morning he would show him all the stuff he had at his place. Witness did call next morning, and defendant showed what he had in the yard. This was bits of old timber and a few odd things. Witness said to defendant: ‘You are sure that’s all?’ Defendant replied: ‘Yes that’s all I have.’ Witness then gave information to the police.

Mr. Haslam: Was anything else missed from the brewing plant? – Witness: Two sieves and a refrigerator, but the refrigerator was afterwards found.

Mr. Haslam: I submit to you that the attemperator was removed on the 6th October. – Witness: I saw it there on the 9th. It was shown to me by Mr. Stanley, who said it was a valuable thing, and I must take care of it.

Frederick Turneville, a publican living at Short Heath, said that about the time the BRIDGE TAVERN was taken over by Messrs. Johnson and Phipps defendant asked him to go to his house and look at something he had there. When witness went, defendant asked him what the article was which was standing just inside the living room, and he told him it was a brewer’s attemperator. It was in a very dirty condition, and looked almost like scrap. Defendant did not ask witness anything about buying it, but he did say that if witness heard of anybody who wanted such a thing he would be glad if witness let him know.

Mr. Haslam: In it’s rough state defendant might have taken it to be old metal? – Witness: Yes; he told me he had had it from the BRIDGE TAVERN, and I believe he said he had had it given him.

Silas William J. Brownhill, Blakenhall, Walsall, said he was the brother to the wife of the former tenant of the BRIDGE TAVERN. At the time of transfer of the place the tenant was ill, and away from the house, and witness acted on behalf of his wife. He gave authority to defendant to remove some of the old timber and some small articles, but never authorised him to remove anything connected with the brewing plant. Witness had never seen the attemperator till that morning. Witness saw everything else that was taken away by defendant.

Mr. Haslam: Did you tell defendant he could have some old malt that was in the malt room? – Witness: Yes.

Mr. Haslam: Did you say he could take what lumber he could find? – Witness: I don’t remember saying anything about that.

Mr. Haslam: Did you say there was an old cupboard, and he could take that? – Witness: Yes.

Mr. Haslam: Shortly after then, did he tell you that he had seen some old piping in the rafters? – Witness: He did say he had seen two coils of old piping. That was on October 6th.

Mr. Haslam: Did you tell him to clear it away? – Witness: I did.

Mr. Haslam: Did you say it must have been there for ‘donkey’s’, and you had never seen it? – Witness: I believe I did.

Mr. Haslam: Did you hear him call to a man named Barker and tell him he could remove the stuff? – Witness: Yes I heard him shout to Barker.

Mr. Haslam: It was all done quite openly? – Witness: Yes.

Mr. Haslam: These coils, as you describe them, they were in the malt room, and had nothing to do with the store room in which the brewing plant was kept? – Witness: That is so.

PC Dixon stated that on the 2nd December he visited defendant’s home, but defendant was not there. He saw defendant’s sister, who asked him to go into the house. In a corner of the back kitchen witness saw the attemperator, and took possession of it. Later in the day he saw defendant, and told him he was making inquiries regarding the missing attemperator, and defendant replied, ‘William Brownhill told me I could take it; so I brought it home. I will take it back. On 6th December he served defendant with a summons charging him with stealing the attemperator, and defendant said, ‘I haven’t stolen it.’

This concluded the evidence for the prosecution, and Mr. Haslam submitted that this itself bore out defendant’s contention that he

thought the attempator was useless old piping, and that Mr. Brownhill had given him permission to take it. It was removed in the broad daylight, taken to defendant's house, and concealed in no way whatever.

Defendant said that for twenty years he had been employed by the Willenhall Gas Company, and had a good character from the manager. He was at one time employed in the evenings as a temporary barman at the BRIDGE TAVERN. That was before the premises were sold to prosecutors. The former tenant's goods were removed on the 6th of October. On that date the wife of the former tenant told him he could have all the old rubbish lying about, and that same day Mr. Brownhill also said he could remove it, but that whatever he did he was not to remove anything connected with the brewery plant, or what was in the brewhouse. At defendant's suggestion the brewhouse was locked up. When defendant was clearing away the rubbish in the malt room he noticed what he thought was some old piping protruding from the rafters, and he spoke to Mr. Brownhill about it. Mr. Brownhill said, 'Oh, Clear it all off.' Witness and a man named Barker then took it down. It was in a very dirty state. Witness afterwards took it to his own house. It was all done in daylight, and there was no secrecy about it. He had never tried to steal the attempator. By Mr. Tildesley: It was on the 6th not the 9th it was taken away.

John Barker corroborated defendant's statement.

The Bench retired to consider their decision, and afterwards Mr. Lister said they did not think the evidence was sufficient to justify conviction. There was some doubt in their minds, and they would give defendant the benefit of it. At the same time, there were grounds for suspicion, and the police had done right in bringing the matter forward."

South Staffordshire Times 3/5/1924

"Willenhall Police Court.....

Isaiah George, 33, Bentley Road, Short Heath, and Thomas Richards, 67, High Road, Short Heath, were summoned for being drunk on licensed premises, and for refusing to quit the BRIDGE TAVERN on April 22nd, and also for being drunk and disorderly on the same date.

They pleaded guilty.

Timothy Tuckley, the licensee of the tavern said the defendants entered the house about half-past nine on the night of the date mentioned. They were frequent visitors and had hitherto been orderly. On this occasion, however, they began to create a disturbance, and he refused to serve them with drink and ordered them from the house. They refused to go and he called the police.

Mr. R. Tildesley, who appeared for the prosecution, questioned the witness on the condition of the defendants, and he replied: 'They were merry.'

The Magistrates Clerk: With drink? – Witness: Well, they had a little.

Mr. Tildesley: What was their condition? – Well, they had sufficient.

Did they apply for more? – Yes, but I did not fill any.

Why? – They had had enough.

PS Thorpe, who, with PC Joyce, was called to the house, said there was a general melee in the tap-room, and when defendants were ejected they became disorderly, Richards said he was going back to the house and would 'wreck the lot.' George threatened to assault him.

A fine of 10s, or seven days imprisonment, was imposed in each case."

1939 Register

2, Bentley Lane

[1] *Timothy Tuckley*, date of birth 18/7/1877, licensee, married;

[2] *Lilian Tuckley*, dob 18/3/1877, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Mary (Tuckley) (King) Coombs*, dob 21/8/1914, doctor's dispenser, single:

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

Robert Kenneth Smith married June E. Rudge in the third quarter of 1965.

See also SHAKESPEARE.

[2016]

BRIDGE

1, High Street / Bridge Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

George Augustus Sheldon

LICENSEES

Thomas Booth [1845] – [1851]
Thomas Hall [1854] – [1855]
Clorley [1859] – [1860]
John Conway [1861] – [1872]
George Augustus Sheldon [1881] – [1891]
John Henry ‘Jack’ Southan (1897 – 1959);
Mrs. Annie Southan (1959 – 1963)

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Booth was also a builder and farmer. [1845], [1850]

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/6/1849

“On Monday afternoon last, an inquest was held at the BRIDGE TAVERN, Portobello, before T. M. Phillips, Esq., coroner, on the body of Evan Vaughan, a miner, about 32 years of age, living at Wednesfield, who was killed on Saturday night last, by the mail train from Liverpool passing over him whilst he was in the act of recklessly attempting to cross the London and North Western Railway at Bull Pleck, when the train was approaching, he being at the time in a state of intoxication. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, expressing an opinion that the company were free from blame, but intimating the propriety of a watchman being placed at the ‘crossing’ on Saturday nights, when the road is used by miners returning from their reckonings, and on Sundays, when it is much frequented by children and other persons.”

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *Thomas Booth* (45), builder, born Albrighton, Shropshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Booth (24), daughter, born Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire;
- [3] Thomas Lewis (21), agricultural servant, born Hangroid, Shropshire;
- [4] Thomas Booth (15), son, visitor, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Augustine Rawlins (15), visitor, scholar, born Hamford, Staffordshire;
- [6] Sarah Butter (5), visitor, scholar, born Walsall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

“Mr. Underhill applied for a license to the SHAKESPEARE INN, Brickkiln Street, Portobello, on behalf of Mr. George Davis, the occupant. The population around this house had considerably increased, and not a single spirit license had been granted in this neighbourhood for eight or ten years. At the present time there were only three licensed houses in the locality. Mr. Manby opposed the application for the old licensed innkeepers of the neighbourhood, on the ground that there was no necessity for another license being granted, there being already four licensed houses in the same locality.....

Mr. Underhill renewed his application on behalf of Mr. *Hall* for a license to the BRIDGE TAVERN. Mr. Manby opposed on behalf of the same parties and on similar grounds to those mentioned in the previous cases. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/7/1855 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. H. W. Greader, at Mr. *Thomas Hall*'s, BRIDGE TAVERN, Portobello, Willenhall, on Thursday, August 2, 1855, at five o'clock in the afternoon.....

Lot 14 comprises a large and commodious Public House, known as the BRIDGE TAVERN, containing tap room, bar parlour, two smoke rooms, private parlour, two brewhouses, three cellars, large club room, bed rooms, attics, stable, gighouse, two Houses adjoining, and other outbuildings, producing £50 per annum, doing a first rate business, situate adjoining the bridge of the London and North Western Railway, at Portobello, on the road leading from Willenhall to Wolverhampton, and occupied by Mr. *Thomas Hall* Copyhold of Inheritance in the Manor of Stowheath.

Further particulars may be had on application to Mr. Foster, or Mr. Foster Gough, solicitors, King Street, Wolverhampton; or Mr. *Tomas Booth*, CASTLE INN, Wood End, Wednesfield.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/12/1859 - Advert

“Valuable Public House, Dwelling Houses, and Buildings, at Portobello, Willenhall, Staffordshire.

Mr. Greader will Sell by Auction, at the ALBION INN, Willenhall, on Thursday, the 5th day of January, 1860, at six o'clock in the evening, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions to be then read, the following valuable Properties.

Lot 1. All that old-established and well-frequented Public House, known by the sign of the BRIDGE TAVERN, together with the Stabling and other Outbuildings, and Yard at the back, situate at the Railway Bridge, at Portobello, Willenhall aforesaid, and fronting to the main road there leading from Wolverhampton to Walsall, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Clorley*.

Also all that other Messuage or Dwelling House, situate at Portobello, aforesaid, adjoining the above-mentioned Public House, and now tenanted.

Lot 2. All those sixteen Messuages or Dwelling Houses, situate at Portobello aforesaid, adjoining lot 1, with the Yards and neces-

sary Outbuildings thereto at the back thereof, now in the occupation of Mr. Booth and others.

The above property is Copyhold of Inheritance of the Manor of Stowheath.

Further information may be obtained on application to the Auctioneer, Willenhall; or to Messrs. Hawksford and Parkes, Solicitors, Wolverhampton.”

1861 Census

1, High Street, Portobello – BRIDGE TAVERN

[1] *John Conway* (54), publican, born Great Haywood;

[2] *Sarah Conway* (62), wife, born Drayton in Hales, Shropshire;

[3] *William Stevens* (32), lodger, sinker, mines, born Royston, Yorkshire;

[4] *Hannah Rudge* (46), widow, general servant, born Brombo [Brymbo?], Wales:

John Conway, retailer of beer, Portobello. [1862]

J. Conway, beer retailer, High Street, Portobello. [1864], [1865]

John Conway, beer retailer, High Street, Portobello. [1868], [1872]

1871 Census

39, High Street, Portobello

[1] *John Conway* (63), publican, born Rugby, Staffordshire;

[2] *Sarah Conway* (72), wife, born Newton, Shropshire;

[3] *Martha* (21), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/12/1874

“Last night there was a well-attended meeting of miners at the BRIDGE INN, Portobello, near Willenhall, to hear an address from Mr. Gething, the district miners’ agent.....”

George Augustus Sheldon married *Elizabeth Lewis* in 1874.

Evening Express 4/2/1881 - Advert

“Wanted, strong General Servant, accustomed to children.

Apply, BRIDGE TAVERN, Portobello.”

1881 Census

1, High Street, Portobello – BRIDGE TAVERN

[1] *George A. Sheldon* (28), publican, born Smethwick;

[2] *Elizabeth Sheldon* (23), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Ann Elizabeth Sheldon* (3), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Susannah G. Sheldon* (1), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *Eliza Jones* (15), general servant, born Darlaston:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1882

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton division of the Hundreds of Seisdon North were held yesterday.....

G. A. Sheldon, BRIDGE TAVERN, beerhouse, Portobello, applied, through Mr. John Clark, for a full license. He had formerly rented the house at £28 a year, and had lately bought it and two little cottages adjoining for £600. The annual rateable value of the present premises as a beerhouse was £30 a year. Mr. Dallow opposed on behalf of two houses near: the ALBION INN, Brick-kiln Street, Portobello (by Mrs. Perry); and the GOUGH'S ARMS, High Street (by Mr. Barnes, Walsall, for the Cannock Brewery Company). Refused.”

1891 Census

1, High Street – BRIDGE TAVERN

[1] *George Augustus Sheldon* (38), beer retailer and soda water manufacturer, born Smethwick;

[2] *Elizabeth Sheldon* (33), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Catherine E. Sheldon* (14), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Ann Elizabeth Sheldon* (13), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *Susannah G. Sheldon* (11), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[6] *Rebecca Sheldon* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;

[7] *Mary A. Whitehouse* (25), domestic servant, born Walsall:

John Henry Southan was born in the 1st quarter of 1870.

John Henry 'Jack' Southan married *Annie Fisher* in the 2nd quarter of 1895.

1901 Census

1, High Street, Portobello – BRIDGE TAVERN

[1] *John Henry Southan* (31), beerhouse keeper, born Heath Town;

- [2] *Annie Southan* (31), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Harriet Southan* (5), daughter, born Heath Town;
- [4] *Thomas Southan* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Alice Glotham* (16), general servant, born Willenhall:

John Henry Southan, beer retailer, High Street, Portobello. [1904]

1911 Census

1, High Street, Portobello

- [1] *John Henry Southan* (41), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Annie Southan* (41), wife, married 16 years, assisting in the business, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Harriet Southan* (15), daughter, dressmaker's apprentice, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Thomas Southan* (13), son, school, born Portobello;
- [5] *Phoebe Babb* (16), domestic servant, born Portobello:

John Henry Southan, beer retailer, 1, High Street, Portobello. [1912], [1932]

London Gazette 29/1/1932

"All persons having claims or demands against the estate of *George Augustus Sheldon*, late of Cannock Road, Essington, near Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford, formerly of High Street, Portobello, near Willenhall, in the said county, formerly a Licensed Victualler, but then Out of Business (who died on the 7th day of November, 1931, and whose will was proved in the Birmingham District Probate Registry on the 23rd day of December, 1931, by *John Henry Southan*, of the BRIDGE TAVERN, High Street, Portobello, near Willenhall aforesaid, Beer House Keeper, *Matthew Herbert Tildesley*, of Somerford Place, Willenhall aforesaid, Retired Manufacturer, and *Reginald Harris*, of 1, New Road, Willenhall aforesaid, Solicitor, the executors), are required to send particulars of such claims or demands to us, the undersigned, as Solicitors to the said executors, on or before the 31st day of March, 1932, after which date the executors will proceed to distribute the assets, having regard only to the claims then received. Dated the 25th day of January, 1932.

Rowland Tildesley and Harris, 1, New Road, Willenhall, Solicitors....."

1939 Register

1, High Street

- [1] *John H. Southan*, date of birth 17/2/1870, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Annie Southan*, dob 11/12/1869, bar general, married;
- [3] *Alfred Shepherd*, dob 1/2/1895, universal grinder, married;
- [4] *Harriett Shepherd*, dob 23/9/1895, unpaid domestic duties, married:

1959 Probate

"*John Henry Southan*, of the BRIDGE INN, 1 High Street, Portobello, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 5 February 1959. Administration Birmingham 17 June to *Thomas Southan*, die sinker. Effects £359 3s 1d."

Birmingham Daily Post 5/3/1959

"When 89-year-old *Mrs. Annie Southam* was granted the license of her first public house, the BRIDGE INN, at Willenhall, yesterday, she also took over the distinction of being the district's oldest woman licensee from *Mrs. Sarah Ann Cooper*, of the MINERS ARMS, Rushall, who is a mere 82. She can also claim to be the most experienced new licensee in the trade, for she had helped her husband since he first took over the license of the BRIDGE in 1897, when he was 27, until his death last month."

Annie Southan died on 31st December 1963.

Tommy Rogers, an ex-boxer, did odd jobs here.

Closed

Demolished

BRITANNIA

Ann Street, Spring Bank, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/5/1859 - Advert

“Mr. H. W. Greader will Sell by Auction, on Friday next, the 27th day of May, 1859, at six o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. F. Clark, known as the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions then to be produced by order of the Mortgagee under a power of sale.

Lot 1. All that newly-erected and well-frequented Public-House, known as the BRITANNIA INN, in Ann Street, Spring Bank, with Tap Room, Parlour, Bar, Brewhouse, Stable, two Cellars, three Bed Rooms, large Club Room, and good Yard, and adjoining the Canal and extensive Works of Messrs. Fletcher, Solly, and Urwick, and now doing a good trade; also three Cottages adjoining, with back and front Rooms, two Bed Rooms, Cellar, and Brewhouses; the whole producing the annual rental of thirty-seven pounds ten shillings.....”

BRITISH OAK

17, Doctor's Piece, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mary Elizabeth Hall and Rebecca Nicholds [1912]

LICENSEES

John Benton [1868] – [1870]

John Halford [] – 1909)

Samuel Downen [1911] – [1912]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

John Benton, beer retailer, Doctors Piece. [1868], [1870]

He issued tokens from here.

See also TURKS HEAD.

Walsall Advertiser 20/3/1909

“An inquest was held by Mr. Coroner Stokes, at the BRITISH OAK INN, Doctor's Piece, Willenhall, on Monday afternoon, touching the death of *John Halford* (59), the licensee of the house, who died suddenly at 5.50 on the morning of the 11th inst. Evidence was given by the housekeeper (Mary Harper), and the Coroner read a letter from Dr. Dean, in which it was stated that the deceased attended at the surgery on the 3rd instant, apparently suffering from liver trouble. He went to Wolverhampton on the 10th, ate a good supper upon his return, and retired at the usual time. The doctor added that he was of opinion death was due to syncope due to affection of the heart.

The jury returned a verdict of Natural Causes.”

1911 Census

17, Doctors Piece

[1] *Samuel Downen* (49), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;

[2] *Edith Downen* (28), wife, married 2 years, born Darlaston;

[3] *Norman Downen* (8), son, born Darlaston;

[4] *Ellen Downen* (3 months), daughter, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/6/1912 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, at Eleven o'clock am, on Thursday, the 18th Day of July, 1912. And Notice Is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licens-

ing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard; that is to say, the Persons interested in any Licensed Premises in question, and, unless it appears to the Compensation Authority unnecessary, any other persons appearing to them to be interested in the question of the renewal of the license of those premises (including the Justices of the Licensing District). List of Licensed Premises.....

BRITISH OAK, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Samuel Downen*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/8/1912 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 18th day of July, 1912, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below, all Persons Claiming to be Interested in the said Premises for the purpose of the Payment of Compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 26th day of August, 1912, for the purpose of enabling the Compensation Authority to ascertain in manner provided by the Licensing Rules, 1910, the Persons entitled to Compensation under the said Act, in respect of the said Premises.....

BRITISH OAK, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Samuel Downen*. Registered Owner, Mary Elizabeth Hall and Rebecca Nickolds.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/1/1913

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.....

The County Licensing Committee presented the following report.....

The committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon are satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.

In the following twenty-five cases the committee fixed the compensation.....

BRITISH OAK, Willenhall, beerhouse ante 1869, £850.....

The money has been apportioned amongst the interested parties and will be paid out on the 21st of December.”

BRITISH OAK

23, (81), High Road / Short Street, (81, (85), Lane Head), (Willenhall Road), Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Robert Fenn [1871] – [1872]

William Turberville [1881] – [1891]

Frederick William Turberville [1901] – [1912]

George Booth [1932] – [1940]

Robert Kenneth ‘Bob’ Smith [c.1990]

Craig Walton and Tina Small [2007]

NOTES

85, Lane Head [1881]

Willenhall Road [1891]

81, High Road [1939]

81, Lane Head [1940]

23, High Road [1990], [1998], [2003], [2005]

It had a beerhouse license.

Frederick William was the son of *William* and *Kezia Turberville*.

He was baptized on December 23rd, 1860, at St. Stephen’s Church, Willenhall.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/8/1866

“On Monday, W. H. Phillips, Esq, (Deputy Coroner), held an inquest at the MASEPPA INN [sic], Moseley Hole, on the body of a

newly born child, which had been found under suspicious circumstances the previous Saturday morning, at the foot of a pit bank. Only enough evidence was taken to justify further inquiry.

A boy named Samuel Stokes deposed that he found the body wrapped in a piece of black moreen, which looked like the piece of a woman's petticoat. The bundle was lying at the foot of a spoil bank, near the BRITISH OAK public house, at about eleven o'clock in the forenoon. There were some marks about the head and shoulders, but whether they were the result of pressure in parturition, or inflicted after birth, or whether in fact the child had been born alive, only a surgical post mortem examination could determine. For that purpose, the inquest was adjourned until Thursday week.

Upon a rumour that an Irishwoman had been seen about the spot on the previous night, a poor demented Irishwoman, who had been found wandering about Wolverhampton, and whose fare for her departure to Liverpool had been defrayed from the poor-box by the magistrates on Saturday, was handed over to the county police, and brought before H. Hill and S. Cartwright, Esqs., at the County Police Court on Monday, but the officer in charge of the case not being prepared with evidence against her, the magistrates discharged her. She was, however, directly taken into custody by a policeman from Willenhall, the Petty Sessional division in which the body was found. She was immediately conveyed to Willenhall, and placed before the sitting magistrates there (the Rev. G. H. Fisher, and R. D. Gough, Esq.,) and they remanded her for a week. Soon after she had been removed from the dock and locked up, she was shown to a miner who lives in the neighbourhood of Moseley Hole, and who identified her as a woman whom he had seen near the spot where the body was found on Friday afternoon. She gave her name as Mary Guttery, and talks in such a rambling way that the opinion formed about her is that she is demented. She says she is a tramp, and from her talk has been in the principal towns in the country; and occasionally mourns over the death of a child whom she states she buried when it was eleven month's old at Sheffield. A medical examination of her person has put it beyond all doubt that she is not the mother of the child found at Moseley Hole. Its body was examined by Mr. Harthill, on Monday, who found it to be the body of a fine male child, which was born alive."

1871 Census

Lane Head – BRITISH OAK

- [1] *Robert Fenn* (45), licensed victualler and retail shopkeeper, born Bilston;
- [2] *Hannah Fenn* (44), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *William Fenn* (23), son, boiler maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Mary J. Meacham* (8), niece, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Eliza Davies* (18), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Robert Fenn, beer retailer, Lane Head. [1872]

1881 Census

85, Lane Head – BRITISH OAK

- [1] *William Turberville* (45), iron roll turner and publican, born Kinver;
- [2] *Keziah Turberville* (48), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Frederic Turberville* (19), son, iron roll turner, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Georgina Turberville* (16), daughter, barmaid, born Lane Head;
- [5] *Clara Turberville* (14), daughter, pupil teacher (Public Elementary School), born Lane Head;
- [6] *Emily Turberville* (8), daughter, scholar, born Lane Head;
- [7] *William Turberville* (12), son, scholar, born Lane Head;
- [8] *Elizabeth Owen* (17), general servant, born Upton Magna, Shropshire:

Frederick W. Turberville married *Esther Duncombe* in the 4th quarter of 1886.

1891 Census

Willenhall Road – BRITISH OAK INN

- [1] *William Turberville* (57), roll turner and publican, born Stourbridge;
- [2] *Kezia Turberville* (58), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Georgina Turberville* (27), daughter, assistant publican, born Short Heath;
- [4] *Clara Turberville* (24), daughter, school mistress, born Short Heath;
- [5] *William Turberville* (22), son, roll turner, born Short Heath;
- [6] *Emily Turberville* (18), daughter, barmaid, born Short Heath:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1894

"An inquest was held yesterday, before the Deputy County Coroner, at the BRITISH OAK INN, Lane Head, touching the death of *Joseph Johnson* (42), Doe End, Aldridge.

It appeared from the evidence that deceased and his son had been engaged during the past week in reopening an old pit shaft, and up to Friday no gas had been observed. On Saturday morning, however, after deceased had been lowered to the bottom of the shaft, he called out to be pulled up. The other men at once commenced to wind him up, but deceased fell out of the bowk. A man was lowered down the shaft, but had to be pulled up again immediately owing to the pressure of gas. After some time deceased was pulled up by a rope; but was then found to be dead.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Choke Damp."

1901 Census

Lane Head – BRITISH OAK

- [1] *Frederick Turberville* (40), beer retailer, born Lane Head;
- [2] *Esther Turberville* (38), wife, born Lane Head;
- [3] *Alfred Turberville* (13), son, born Lane Head;
- [4] *Emily Turberville* (11), daughter, born Lane Head;
- [5] *Clara Turberville* (8), daughter, born Lane Head;
- [6] *Beatrice Turberville* (7), daughter, born Lane Head;
- [7] *Elizabeth Duncombe* (19), general servant, born Lane Head:

Frederick Turberville, beer retailer, Lane Head. [1904], [1912]

1911 Census

Lane Head

- [1] *Frederick Turberville* (50), innkeeper, (beerhouse), born Short Heath;
- [2] *Esther Turberville* (48), wife, married 25 years, born Short Heath;
- [3] *Emily Turberville* (22), daughter, assisting in the beerhouse, born Short Heath;
- [4] *Clara Turberville* (20), daughter, born Short Heath:

Walsall Advertiser 9/3/1912

“The Coal War. Great Struggle Still Proceeding.....

Notices were issued stating that strike pay would be paid as follows (on the production of contribution card):

Thursday, March 14th: Sheffield, SPRING COTTAGE INN, at 11am; Walsall Wood, WHEEL INN, at 2pm; Brownhills, Crown Inn, at 5pm;

Friday, March 15th: Pelsall, STATION INN, at 11am; Bloxwich, QUEENS HEAD INN, at 2pm; Lane Head, BRITISH OAK INN, at 5pm;

Saturday, March 16th: Newton, Malt Shovel Inn, at 11am.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 10/1/1925

“Willenhall Police Court.....

Samuel Harris, Cross Street, and William Madeley, High Road, Short Heath, were summoned for disorderly behaviour.

PC Joyce related that at two o'clock on the morning of Christmas Day, there was a crowd of people outside the BRITISH OAK licensed house. The defendants were using obscene language and quarrelling, and they were about to fight. Madeley was stripped to the waist. They afterwards went into Cross Street and resumed the disturbance. Madeley stated that a man came to his house for beer, and when refused by his wife he made use of bad language to her. He went out to protest, and to protect his wife, and denied he had used bad language. He admitted being a 'little aerated' owing to the remarks made to his wife. The man who made them disappeared.

The Chairman said there must have been some looseness for a person to come for beer at two o'clock in the morning, and imposed a fine of 10s, and costs in each case.”

G. Booth, beer retailer, Lane Head. [1932]

1939 Register

81, High Road

- [1] *George Booth*, date of birth 16/5/1874, public house manager, married;
- [2] *Emily Booth*, dob 11/2/1875, invalid, married;
- [3] *Trevor Jeavons*, dob 18/5/1922, keysmith, single:

Bob Smith was married to June.

[2012]

It was converted into a supermarket. [2013]

BRITISH QUEEN

27+28, (28), Raglan Street, (Church Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Old Oak Brewery [1920]

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Ann Starkey [1861]
William Starkey [] – 1870);
Joseph Gee (1870 – []
David Shirley [1881]
Priscilla Oakley [1901]
Henry Cooper [1904]
Charles Phillips [1905] – [1923]
Joseph Butler [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

27+28, Raglan Street [1881], [1901], [1911], [1939]
28, Raglan Street [1904]

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Raglan Street – BRITISH QUEEN

- [1] William Starkey (38), padlock maker, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ann Starkey (37), wife, beer shop, born Willenhall;
- [3] David Capper (39), brother, born Willenhall;
- [4] Ready Capper (20), sister, general servant, born Willenhall:

1881 Census

27 and 28, Raglan Street – BRITISH QUEEN – one family _____ 2 houses

- [1] David Shirley (?) (59), beer seller, born Nuneaton, Warwickshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Shirley (?) (61), wife, born Small Heath, Warwickshire:

1901 Census

27+28, Raglan Street

- [1] Priscilla Oakley (38), widow, publican, born Walsall;
- [2] Richard Oakley (10), son, born Walsall;
- [3] May Oakley (6), daughter, born Walsall:

Henry Cooper, beer retailer, 28, Raglan Street. [1904]

1911 Census

27+28, Raglan Street

- [1] Charles Phillips (29), joiner (carpenter) and beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Clara Matilda Phillips (29), wife, married 7 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] Nellie Phillips (26), sister, born Willenhall;
- [4] Mirandu Phillips (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] John Charles Phillips (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] Harry Phillips (1), son, born Willenhall:

South Staffordshire Times 3/4/1920

“An unusual licensing case was made before Wolverhampton County magistrates on Monday morning, when Mr. Beavon applied on behalf of the owners, Henry Mills and Florence Maria Mills, of the Old Oak Brewery, Willenhall, for the transfer of the license of the BRITISH QUEEN INN, Willenhall, from the present tenant, a man named Phillips, to Benjamin Bert Jones.

Mr. Beavon, in making the application, said that the tenant Phillips refused to appear to make the application, but the owners, having power of attorney under agreement, were making it. Phillips had been offered a house with two bedrooms, but said that he wanted a house with three, and would not accept the accommodation offered. He submitted that the owners were entitled to some latitude in saying whether they wanted the tenant to be changed or not, and the owners would say that Phillips was not the tenant they expected him to be. The tenant had refused to make the application for the transfer.

Mr. Mills stated that the reason for asking for the transfer was that the house could be better supervised by a manager.

Answering, Mr. Gosling, who opposed on behalf of the present tenant, he said that he had no evidence of any mismanagement or neglect on the part of Phillips.

Phillips, in the box, stated that he had been licensee of the house for seventeen years, during the past ten of which he had been the tenant. He had a wife and eight children and the accommodation offered him was not suitable for that family.

Mr. Gosling opposed under the Rent Restriction Act.

Colonel McBean, who presided, said that he felt he could not join in dispossessing the tenant in his present circumstances, and he advised Mr. Beavon, if he wished to proceed further with the application, to bring it before the full Licensing Bench."

South Staffordshire Times 27/1/1923

"At Willenhall Police Court, on Monday last, before Messrs. J.A. E. Squire, P. H. Chilton, and G. G. Evans, *Charles Phillips*, licensee of the BRITISH QUEEN, Raglan Street, Willenhall, was charged with unlawfully and fraudulently converting to his own use a sum of £153 5s 2d, the money of the members of the Loan and Dividend Society, of which he was treasurer, and whose meetings were held at his house.

Mr. Milichip (West Bromwich) appeared for the prosecution, and defendant was represented by Mr. R. Tildesley.

Opening the case, Mr. Milichip said that the members of the Dividend Society numbered 79. They paid in so much per week. Out of that money certain amounts could be lent to members, and at the end of the year, after deducting incidental expenses, the balance was divided between the members. This should be done on the 22nd or 23rd of December. There were three persons who had a hand in receiving the contributions last year. One was the secretary (Mr. Simpkins), and two others, who assisted when he was unable to be present. For the whole year the sum of £168 15s 2d was collected. Out of that sum £12 4s 6d was advanced to members as loans, 13s 6d was allowed to defendant for contribution cards, and the secretary's salary was £2 12s. The balance which defendant should have in hand was £153 5s 2d. It was arranged that the members should receive their dividends on or immediately after 22nd December, but they became fully entitled to it on 22nd December. Witnesses would tell the Bench that on going for their money on 22nd December they were told by defendant that he would pay it a few days later on, but when they went again to him he said the money had gone, or words to that effect.

Alfred Simpkins, millwright, 7, Frederick Street, Willenhall, said he was secretary to the Loan and Dividend Society, which held its meetings at defendant's licensed house. Defendant was the treasurer. The contribution book (produced) showed that there were 79 members last year, which began on 1st January, and continued till the 17th December. The total sum paid during the year was £168 15s 2d. From 1st January until 9th April witness personally collected the contributions, and also for the week ending 17th December. The total amount of the collections for that period was £59 6s 8d. He paid that money to defendant, he being treasurer. The borrowers' book showed that defendant was entitled to £12 4s 6d paid out by him for loans, and he was also entitled to 13s 6d for the cost of the cards. As the secretary, witness would be entitled to £2 12s, but he had not yet received the money. Witness occasionally had the assistance of two men in the secretarial work. These were Frederick Hill and Fred Perrins. Witness knew that none of the money had yet been paid by defendant to the contributors. On the evening of the 22nd December witness went to defendant's house for the purpose of assisting him in paying out the money. He waited from 7pm till 10pm, but defendant did not put in an appearance at all. Witness did not see him until he saw him at the Police Court on Monday last.

Cross-examined by Mr. Tildesley:

How long have you been secretary of the society? – Seven or eight years.

But it has not been carried out at this house for more than two years? – That is so.

What officials were there? – A secretary and treasurer, but no committee.

At what meeting was Mr. *Phillips* appointed treasurer? – He was appointed by the consent of the members. There was no particular meeting.

How was he elected treasurer? – As a general rule in this kind of club the tenant of the house where the club is held acts as treasurer.

He was not formally elected as treasurer at any time? – No.

The club was transferred to his house? – Yes.

Who kept the books to which you have referred? – I did for a certain length of time, and Hill and Perrins for the remainder.

You cannot say that the books are correct, except so far as you made the entries yourself? – That is all I can say.

Did you lay the information against defendant in this case? – No.

As secretary you had no authority from the members to take proceedings? – The members took them themselves.

You did not do anything? – No.

Was there any meeting of the members? – No.

Do you know that defendant made certain offers to raise the money? – Yes.

These were refused? – I did not refuse them.

It is a fact that these proceedings were taken contrary to the wishes of the members, except three or four? – Generally speaking, I should say so.

Re-examined by Mr. Milichip:

Defendant has had the money? – Yes.

And he paid it over? – No.

Who had the cards printed with the words 'Co. Phillips, treasurer' on? – I ordered them with Mr. Phillips's consent.

Were they sent to his house? – Yes.

It is not unusual in the Black Country for loan and dividend societies to hold their meeting at public houses, and pay their contributions there? – They are common at such houses.

Frederick Hill, locksmith, 9, The Crescent, Willenhall said he was brother-in-law to defendant. Witness collected the contributions to the club from 23rd April till 14th May. The total was £14 4s 2d, and he paid that amount to defendant. Witness was not a member of the society.

Fred Perrins, brasscaster, 8, King Street, Willenhall, said he collected the contributions from 21st May till 19th December. The total

was £95 4s 4d. He paid all the money to defendant. Witness was not a member of the society, but his wife was. On her behalf he went two of three times for her dividend, but defendant was never there.

Mr. Milichip: Nor was the dividend there? – No.

Mr. Tildesley: You have never seen defendant and asked him personally for the money? – No.

Mary Jane Ball, wife of James Ball, miner, 84, Newhall Street, Willenhall, said she paid in £5 6s 6d on her own behalf, and the same amount on behalf of a Mrs. Lloyd. Both became entitled to £5 6s 6d on the 22nd December last. On the 27th December witness went to defendant's house for the money, but she could not see him there. On the 7th January last she again went to the house. She then saw defendant, and asked him what he was going to do about the dividends. He said if she would give him another chance he would give her the money on the following Friday or Saturday. Witness went to the house again on the Friday, and he told her to go the following night. She did so, and he then told her that he could not pay her. He also said he could not get anyone to lend him the money, although he had been to three or four loan officers to try and borrow it. He said the contributors could 'do their worst' to him.

Mr. Tildesley: Was anyone with you when he said that? – Yes; six or seven other contributors.

Jane Beech, wife of a lockmaker, of 48, John Harper Street, Willenhall, said she was a member of the society. At the end of last year she was entitled to receive £2 13s 3d, and she also paid in for others who were entitled to receive other sums. These were: A. Beach, 7s 2d; Miss Lowe, £2 13s 3d; and Alfred Beach, £2 13s 9d. On December 22nd she went to defendant's house for the money, but he was not to be seen. She had not yet received any money. On the 7th January she and a number of other members went to the house. Defendant was there then. She said to him: 'What about my money?' He replied: 'Give me a chance, and I'll pay you.' She called a week later, and again saw defendant. She asked him if they were going to have their money. Defendant replied: 'I haven't got it, and you can do your worst. If you have me locked up you won't have it.'

Kate Green, wife of Mark Green, labourer, of 24, Raglan Street, Willenhall, said she was a member of the society. She paid in during last year, and was entitled to receive £3 11s on the 22nd December. She had several times applied for the money, but had not received any yet. On the 7th January she saw defendant himself, and again on the 13th, in company with other witnesses, and she agreed with what they said regarding defendant's statements.

Inspector Young said that after complaints had been made he received a warrant for defendant's arrest. He read it to defendant, cautioned him, and then charged him with the offence. Defendant made no reply.

Defendant who said he should reserve his defence was committed for trial at the next Assizes.

Defendant was further charged with having, on December 23rd, 1922, fraudulently converted to his own use the sum of £72 16s 8d entrusted to him as treasurer of a sick dividend club held at his house.

Mr. Milichip said this case was somewhat similar to the other. It was a sick dividend and burial society. There was a secretary, and defendant was treasurer.

Frederick Hill, a witness in the last case, said defendant was treasurer. Out of the money they contributed the members would have sick pay. He said he was secretary of the society and ___ at a rate of 4s per week for eight weeks. If a member died relatives would have 30s towards the funeral expenses. If ___ money were paid out the balance would be divisible among the members. The sum of £101 9s 6d was received during the year, but payments reduced this to £72 16s 8d, the amount which defendant was charged with converting to his own use. None of the members had received any dividend. The whole of the amount contributed had been paid to defendant. Witness was entitled to £3 12s 6d as secretary, but he had given up the claim. There were 75 members entitled to dividend of 15s 4d each, and this should have been paid on December 23rd. The whole of the members belonged to working class families. On the 23rd December witness attended at defendant's house for the purpose of issuing the money, but none was paid out. Defendant was not there. He saw defendant two or three times afterwards, and told him that it was only natural that the people should want their money. Defendant said they certainly should have it if they would give him a chance. Witness told the members that. He knew that defendant had tried hard to borrow the money.

Mr. Tildesley (for defendant): Was anything said about furniture being taken over? – Yes.

What was said? – He said he had a good house of furniture, and would sell every stick and stump, so that the members could have their money.

Did he go further than that, and offer to allow the members themselves to sell the furniture? – Yes.

That offer was not accepted? – No; they did not want to sell his furniture.

As a matter of fact, the bulk of the members wanted to give him time to pay? – Yes, 75 per cent of them. They signed a petition.

Mr. Milichip: Defendant fed them up a promise, but no dividend. They have never had anything? – No.

You have not had your own salary yet? – No.

Nor your dividend? – No.

Several contributors then gave evidence to the amounts paid in and their inability to get anything out.

Defendant was committed to trial on the charge also, bail being allowed – himself £100, and other sureties amounting to £400."

[1939 Register](#)

[27+28, Raglan Street](#)

[1] [Joseph Butler](#), date of birth 2/8/1878, iron moulder retired, married;

[2] [Lizzette Butler](#), dob 13/12/1883, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] [Nellie Irene \(Butler\) \(Lloyd\) Robinson](#), dob 1/8/1912, machine worker, iron foundry, single, Red Cross voluntary worker;

[4] [Leslie Butler](#), dob 17/3/1919, toolmaker, lock works, single, RAOC soldier;

[5] [Harry Butler](#), dob 28/5/1921, wood pattern maker, single, ARP voluntary messenger:

Closed

BROADWAY

2, Lichfield Road / Broad Lane North, (Wolverhampton Road), Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.
Allied Breweries
Spirit Group [2003]

LICENSEES

Arthur Riley [1939] – [1940]
Phil Butler [1986] – [1988]
Martin Andrew Hulland [1989] – [1997]
Gavin Salter [2005] – [2010] general manager

NOTES

It was locally listed.

It was built in 1935.

1939 Register

Wolverhampton Road – BROADWAY HOTEL

- [1] *Arthur Riley*, born 12th March, 1899, hotel manager;
- [2] Jennie (Jane) Riley, born 6th January, 1892, unpaid domestic duties;
- [3] Kenneth Riley, born 18th April, 1926, at school;
- [4] Lily White, born 23rd April, 1893, bar general:

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

Martin Hulland was married to Diane.
He was born c.1958.

Alterations were carried out in 1995.

It was attacked by arsonists at about 2.45am on 1st February 1997, causing £5,000 damage.

Alterations were made in 2003.

Closed

It reopened on 4th December 2010 as a Fayre and Square pub.

[Express & Star 19/5/2021](#)

“Neighbours fear ‘screaming kids’ will ruin the enjoyment of their gardens if a Wolverhampton pub is allowed to create a new outdoor area. Greene King want to introduce a covered patio area at the BROADWAY in Lichfield Road to allow more customers to drink and eat outside during the pandemic. But the proposal has sparked opposition from a neighbour who fears the plan will add to the noise issues they already experience from the pub’s existing outdoor space. A total of six objections have been lodged raising concerns over issues such as noise, loss of car park spaces resulting in parking on grass verges and surrounding streets, disturbance from external lights and litter.....

Members are recommended to grant approval at the meeting, which will take place on Tuesday, May 25. A report to Wolverhampton Council’s planning committee said the proposal will not have an ‘unreasonable impact’ on neighbours as the locally listed pub already has a beer garden in use.”

[2021]

BROWN JUG

Sandbeds Road, (33, Sandbeds), (Willenhall Road), (Pool Hayes), Short Heath, (Lane Head), (Lane Head Road), (Snape's Lane Head), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

Walter Colburn [1833] – [1845]
George Edwards [1850] – **1852**;
William Webb (**1852** – []
Joseph Whitehouse []
Samuel Davenport [1860] – [1870]
George Jay [] – **1870**;
Isaiah Jones (**1870** – [1873]
Thomas Brown [1877]
Joseph Davis [] – **1881**;
Eli Smart (**1881** – []
Colin Campbell Dawes (**1882** – []
John Carter (**1884** – []
Hiram Jones [1891] – [1901]
Rowland Richards [1904] – [1912]
James Henry Wright [1916] – [1921]
Edward Cyril Pleydell [1927] – [1932]
Roland Welcome Richards [1939] – [1948]
Irene Southam (**1995** – [2008]

NOTES

Snape's Lane Head [1835], [1842]
Pool Hayes [1833], [1845]
Snape's Lodge [1847]
Sandbeds [1851], [1865], [1896], [1912], [1940]
Lane Head [1873]
Lane Head Road [1881]
33, Sandbeds [1881]
Willenhall Road [1891]

OLD BROWN JUG [1851], [1862], [1911]

Walter Colburn = Walter Colbourn = Walter Colbourne
He was also a cabinet locksmith. [1833]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/4/1847 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale At Snape's Lodge, Lane Head, near Willenhall.

To Be Sold By Auction, by William Parkes, on Monday and Tuesday, the 19th and 20th of April, 1847, by the direction of the representatives of the late Mr. *Walter Colbourn*, farmer, victualler and locksmith, on the premises of the BROWN INN, Snape's Lodge. Superior team of Bay Horses, from four to seven years old, three years old Colt, excellent Milking Cows, Pigs, Poultry, Carts, Waggons, Ploughs, Harrows, Light Spring Carts, Winnowing Machines, Straw, Copper and Iron Boilers, Brewing Tubs, quantity of excellent Ale and Casks, Screens, Household Furniture, Feather Beds, Shop Tools, two pairs of Guillotine Shears, Presses, and other effects.

The sale will begin each morning at ten o'clock.

The Horses, Cows, Pigs, and Farming Implements, with the Shop Tools, on Monday; the Household Furniture on Tuesday.

Catalogues are in circulation, and may be had at the place of sale and principal Inns, and at the Auctioneer's office, Walsall Street, Willenhall.”

1851 Census

Lane Head

- [1] *George Edwards* (47), victualler, born Compton;
- [2] Sarah Edwards (45), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] George Edwards (11), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Walter Edwards (9), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Ellen Edwards (7), daughter, born Great Barr;
- [6] John Hayley (29), lodger, born Compton;
- [7] William B Nechil (35), lunatic, blind, born Compton;
- [8] Ellen Hope (25), house servant, born Birmingham;
- [9] Eliza Hooper (20), house servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [10] Charles Hand (14), servant, born Tatte___, Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/1/1852

“At the Petty and Special Sessions on Monday last, being the day appointed for transferring victuallers’ licenses, the following changes took place.....

George Edwards, of the BROWN JUG, Willenhall, to *William Webb*, miner, Darlaston.”

Samuel Davenport = Samuel Devonport = Samuel Devenport

Samuel Davenport, beer retailer, Lane Head. [1861]

1861 Census

Sandbeds

- [1] *Samuel Davenport* (35), keysmith, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Mary Ann Davenport (36), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Hannah Davenport (11), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Abraham Davenport (9), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Henry Davenport (7), son, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Maria Davenport (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] Ellen Davenport (11 months), daughter, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/10/1861 - Notice

“In The County Court of Staffordshire, Holden at Wolverhampton.

Whereas a Petition of *Joseph Whitehouse*, of the New Invention, Wednesfield, in the county of Stafford; previously of the OLD BROWN JUG, Lane Head, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Beer House Keeper, Brewer, Retailer of Beer, and Licensed to Sell Tobacco, Lodging House Keeper, Butty Miner, and Insolvent Debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, and an Interim Order of protection from Process having been given to the said *Joseph Whitehouse*, under the provisions of the statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Joseph Whitehouse* is hereby required to appear in Court before the Judge acting in the matter of the said petition, on the 22nd day of November, 1861, at nine o’clock in the forenoon precisely, at the Court House, Queen-street, Wolverhampton aforesaid, for his First Examination touching his debts, estate and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said statutes; and notice is hereby given that the Choice of Assignees is to take place at the time so appointed.

All persons indebted to the said *Joseph Whitehouse*, or who have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, the Official Assignee, sitting in the matter of the said Petition, at his Office, in Queen-street, Wolverhampton aforesaid.

James Walker, Attorney, Wolverhampton.

C. G. Megevan, High Bailiff.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/11/1862

“*Samuel Davenport*, landlord of the BLACK [sic] JUG public house, Lane Head, was charged at the Police Court, on Monday, with having kept his house open for the sale of beer at two o’clock on Sunday morning, the 2nd instant. The case was proved by Police-constable Pepper, and as this was not the first time defendant had been caught in a similar offence, he was fined 20s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/7/1863

“*Samuel Davenport*, landlord of the BROWN JUG, Lane Head, was charged with threatening two police officers. Mr. Cresswell defended and the case was dismissed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“County Licensing Meeting, in Wolverhampton.

A special Petty Sessions, for the purpose of renewing and the granting of licenses to public-houses within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, was held at the Police Court, in Bilston Street, on Thursday.....

The following is the list of those who had been reported and fined during the past year for offences against their licenses.....

Samuel Devenport, of the BROWN JUG, Lane Head, Willenhall.....

They were now cautioned as to their future conduct, and their licenses were then renewed.”

Samuel Davenport was also a key maker. [1864], [1865]

Edinburgh Gazette 3/12/1869

“Bankrupts..... *Samuel Davenport*, at the BROWN JUG INN, Sandbeds near Willenhall, Stafford, formerly Licensed Victualler at the BROWN JUG aforesaid, and now journeyman key filer.”

London Gazette 1/2/1870

“*Samuel Davenport*, at present lodging at the BROWN JUG INN, Sand Beds, near Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, formerly Licensed Victualler at the BROWN JUG aforesaid, and now Journeyman Key Filer, adjudicated bankrupt on the 22nd day of November, 1869. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, on the 27th day of January, 1870.”

1871 Census

Sandbeds – BROWN JUG

- [1] *Isaiah Jones* (28), coal miner and innkeeper, born Ironbridge;
- [2] Hannah Jones (23), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Sarah Jones (4), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Thomas J. Jones (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Maria Jones (4 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] John Jones (19), brother in law, coal miner, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Charles E. Jones (14), brother in law, coal miner, born Willenhall;
- [8] Catherine Leonard (16), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

London Gazette 28/7/1876

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall. In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Isaiah Jones*, late of Lane Head, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Miner, but now of Chadmore, Hednesford, in the said county, Miner.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. George Cresswell, Solicitor, the New-road, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, on the 9th day of August, 1876, at two o’clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 25th day of July, 1876.

George Cresswell, the New-road, Willenhall. Solicitor for the said *Isaiah Jones*.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 12/6/1877

“Daniel Mallen, of Spring Bank, Willenhall, was brought up in custody charged with being drunk on licensed premises at Lane Head.

About nine o’clock on Sunday morning two police officers visited the BROWN JUG, at Lane Head, kept by a man named *Brown*, and there found the prisoner in a state of intoxication – so drunk, in fact, was the man that they had to carry him to the police station.

Having been previously convicted, prisoner was fined 20s and costs.

It is expected that proceedings will be taken against the landlord of the house for an offence against his license.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1877

“Special annual meeting for the granting of new and the renewal of old licenses.....

Mr. Dallow, on the part of the Chief Constable, opposed the renewal of licenses to *Thomas Brown*, BROWN JUG, Lane Head on the ground of convictions before the magistrates, and the cases were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day (September 27).”

1881 Census

33, Sandbeds – BROWN JUG

- [1] *Joseph Davis* (53), coal miner and publican, born Oswestry;
- [2] Lucy Davis (55), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] James Davis (21), son, coal miner, born Willenhall;
- [4] John Davis (19), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [5] Sarah J. Cox (16), general servant, born Essington:

Evening Express 25/10/1881

“*Eli Smart*, landlord of the BROWN JUG INN, Lane Head Road, Willenhall, was charged with permitting drunkenness, and James Wilcox, Short Heath, with being drunk on the premises on the 15th. Mr. J. Clarke appeared for *Smart*.

Inspector Cook said he had an interview with the landlord respecting the matter, and *Smart* stated that when he went home on Saturday night he found defendant Wilcox there the worse for drink, and the servant girl admitted that she filled about five pints of

ale for him.

The Stipendiary fined *Smart* 10s and costs, and Wilcox 10s including costs.”

1891 Census

Willenhall Road – BROWN JUG INN

- [1] *Hiram Jones* (38), publican, born Pensnett;
- [2] *Maria Jones* (37), wife, born Wordsley;
- [3] *Mary Ann James* (12), daughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Ada Hollyhead* (14), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

1901 Census

Sandbeds, Short Heath

- [1] *Hiram Jones* (52), licensed victualler, born Pensnett;
- [2] *Maria Jones* (48), wife, born Wordsley:

1911 Census

Short Heath – BROWN JUG INN

- [1] *Rowland Richards* (35), licensed victualler, born Moxley;
- [2] *Maud Maria Richards* (35), wife, married 14 years, assisting in the business, born Bradley;
- [3] *Rowland Richards* (12), son, school, born Gibbet Gate, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Frederick Mal Richards* (7), son, born Short Heath;
- [5] *Alfred Thomas Richards* (5), son, born Short Heath;
- [6] *Marian Richards* (6 months), daughter, born Short Heath;
- [7] *Lizzie Heay* (20), general servant, born Gibbet Gate Staffordshire:

Edward Cyril Pleydell = Edward Cyril Playdell

Evening Despatch 19/7/1927

“An inquest was opened at Walsall today and adjourned until Monday next on Cyril Jack Playdell, aged 15, a boy scout, of the BROWN JUG INN, Short Heath, who on Saturday last was knocked down by a train at a level crossing near Willenhall. Evidence was given that the lad was semi-conscious when admitted to Walsall Hospital, and died the same night. One leg was broken and there were indications of severe internal injuries.”

AND

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/7/1927

“An inquest was opened at Walsall General Hospital on Tuesday by Mr. J. H. S. Addison, deputy coroner, on Cyril Jack Playdell, a Boy Scout, the 15-year-old son of Mr. *E. C. Playdell*, licensee of the BROWN JUG INN, Short Heath, who died in Walsall Hospital on Saturday, as the result of an accident. Deceased was knocked down and injured at a level crossing at Willenhall, succumbing at the hospital a few hours later. The inquest was adjourned.”

AND

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/7/1927

“The adjourned inquest was held on Monday in Walsall on Cyril Jack Pleydell, 15, son of the licensee of the BROWN JUG INN, Short Heath, who was run over at a level crossing on the L. M. and S. Railway at Portobello, near Willenhall, on July 16. It was stated that the deceased was one of a party of Boy Scouts who were preparing a camp in the vicinity of the railway. Harold Cyril Mills, gatekeeper at the level crossing, said after he had closed the gates deceased came up, and witness lifted his cycle over the gate and told him to stay where he was until a train had gone by. Witness took the cycle across the line, and found that Pleydell had been knocked down by the train in the meantime. The jury said that the gatekeeper had committed an error of judgement in helping the deceased with the cycle, and also expressed the opinion that when the large gates of the crossing were locked, the small gates should be locked automatically. Their verdict was accidental death.”

Edward Cyril Pleydell – see also BOARD, Church Street, Bilston, and CROWN, Bank Street, Bilston.

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1938

“Sixteen applications, granted earlier in the year by the local justices, remained to be dealt with when an adjourned meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Confirmation Committee was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Tuesday.....

Unopposed removals approved by the committee for the removal of the full licence.....

BROWN JUG INN, Sandbeds, Shortheath, Willenhall, to a new house on an adjoining site.”

Closed

It was rebuilt behind the original site.

1939 Register

Sand Beds – BROWN JUG INN (2 of 4)

- [1] *Rowland Richards*, date of birth 15/9/1898, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Flora L. (Richards) Hill*, dob 22/10/1897, domestic housekeeper, married;

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, North Division. [1946]

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

1949 Probate

“*Roland Welcome Richards*, of the BROWN JUG INN, Lane Head, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 10 November 1948. Administration Birmingham 25 June to Flora Lilian Richards, widow. Effects £1,097 1s 7d.”

Irene Southam was born c.1952.

See also WOOLPACK.

[2009]

Closed [2011]

Express & Star 8/11/2018

“Fed-up residents are calling on a council to order a derelict pub ‘blighting’ an area to be knocked down. Nearly 1,700 people have signed a petition calling for action over the BROWN JUG in Short Heath, Walsall, which has been left to run into ruin over the past five years. Walsall Council said previous notices ordering the demolition of the pub have been ignored and residents now say it’s up to the council to put an end to their misery.

The petition, which was submitted to the council by ward councillor Bal Chattha, is calling on council bosses to force through a compulsory purchase order, allowing them to take over the site and redevelop it. Campaigners want Cavan Vets, which has two other branches in the region, to develop a new centre on the site. The petition is also welcoming any interest from other firms wishing to redevelop the site.

Walsall Council leader Mike Bird said, ‘It’s been an eyesore for a long time and it needs to be dealt with and a developer needs to come in and redevelop the site. It’s very distressing for locals and it attracts anti-social behaviour and illegal encampments, it adds to the misery of those who don’t deserve it. They look to us to step in and deal with these issues, and we will. It’s been an uphill struggle with the owner but it’s been stood like this for too long. The owner knows we’re not messing around, the council is taking a proactive approach to this issue, but unfortunately there are more and more of these derelict buildings nowadays. It seems like an ideal site for the vets and if the community needs one, then we should help provide one, and the site owner should be happy to get some money back for the building. Bal has been on the case with this and the sooner it’s sorted the better. Local councillors know the people in their wards best, so all credit must go to Bal and Sarah Jane Cooper for the work they’ve been doing on this.’

Council bosses are set to discuss the petition on the vacant land in a meeting next week.

Ward councillor Sarah Jane Cooper said, ‘For years this site has had kids breaking in and causing a mess, it’s been a hub for anti-social behaviour and is an absolute eyesore. The houses opposite have had enough and now the vets that want to move in can finally redevelop the site.’ The owner could not be contacted by the *Express & Star*.”

Express & Star 27/7/2019

“A long-running saga over the future of a dilapidated Willenhall pub is set to end after permission was granted to demolish it to make way for a veterinary clinic. Walsall Council planners approved the proposal put forward by Willenhall based Cavan Vets to bring down the BROWN JUG, in Sandbeds Road, which has lain empty for a number of years. Agents for Cavan said the business had outgrown its current base in The Precinct in Lucknow Road and wanted to redevelop the pub, which has fallen into a state of disrepair, and create a new two storey centre to cope with increasing demand and provide more facilities and car parking. They said the new base would also result in more jobs being created as the business – which opened in 2003 and employs 14 staff between its two sites in Willenhall and Oxley – grows. In its design and access statement, Cavan said it had been pursuing the site for three years had even agreed a price with the previous owners back in 2016. But the deal fell through and the site ownership has changed hands in the intervening years, resulting in further delays. Concerns over the poor condition of the building and the site becoming a magnet for fly-tipping and vandalism and the council served a section 215 notice on it. When that failed to bring about remedial work to tidy up the site, Stuart Lloyd from Cavan Vets and ward councillors Bal Chatta and Sarah Cooper gathered a petition with 1,600 signatures on it calling on the authority to use Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) powers to take control of the building. Council bosses confirmed they were still pursuing the CPO but welcomed the news planning permission had been granted.

Cavan’s agents, ACD Projects Ltd said, ‘The existing pub was designed in the 1930s and has been redundant for many years, is in an unsafe, dilapidated, state and is a local eye-sore. The practice needs the move so that they can serve all of their clients. Regularly clients have to book in at other vets as they can’t get an appointment. They therefore need to expand, to have better facilities and longer appointment times, and to have a dedicated car park. The BROWN JUG pub site is perfect as it is large enough to easily build a suitable facility with a car park and is close enough to serve their current client base.....”

Express & Star 8/5/2020

“The future of a dilapidated Willenhall pub site has been thrown into uncertainty again after a veterinary practice cancelled plans to develop it. Cavan Vets was granted planning permission by Walsall Council in July to demolish the BROWN JUG in Sandbeds Road and replace it with a brand new practice. But it has now emerged Cavan has shelved those plans and is believed to have turned its focus on an alternative site nearby, leaving the BROWN JUG undeveloped. Members of the Short Heath branch of the

Labour Party have demanded that the authority pursue a compulsory purchase order to take control of the site and secure it. The BROWN JUG has been empty for more than a decade and concerns have been raised about the safety of the building which is in poor condition.....”

Express & Star 12/8/2023

“An empty ‘eyesore’ Walsall pub which has been ‘left to rot’ for over a decade could be demolished after a council took court action. The future of the BROWN JUG pub on Sandbeds Road in Short Heath, Willenhall, is uncertain after Walsall Council called for it to be demolished and the site redeveloped. The pub has stood empty for more than a decade. It had previously been identified for redevelopment by a vet, but the plan did not come to fruition. Walsall Council said it wants to determine its ownership and make plans for the site.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, deputy leader and portfolio holder for regeneration at Walsall Council, said, ‘The BROWN JUG is one of many sites across Willenhall that has been abandoned and left to rot. The owners need to work with the council and the local community to bring this site forward for redevelopment. We are supporting the campaign, led by Short Heath Councillors, to rid the community of this eyesore. Enough is enough and we will, as we are in other parts of Willenhall and the wider borough, use the powers of the council to resolve this issue and bring the site back into economic use as a priority.’

.....A decision on the court action is expected in December.”

BULLS HEAD

50, Wolverhampton Street / Peel Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Messrs. Robinson [1908]

LICENSEES

Jeffery Tildesley [1730s]

Jeffery Tildesley [1801]

Joseph Hammersley [1818] – [1830]

John Hincks* [1833]

John Riley Hincks* [1834] – [1835]

Jeffrey Tildesley [1841] – **1861**;

John Tildesley (**1861** – [1865])

Mrs. Mary Ann Tildesley [1868] – **1874**;

Jeffery Tildesley (**1874** – [1881])

Reuben Holland [1891] – [1896]

John Alexander Hill [1899] – [1901]

J T Richards [1908]

William John Powell [1908]

John Alexander Hill [1916] ?

NOTES

It was also known as YE OLDE BULLS HEAD.
OLD BULLS HEAD. [1908], [1909]

It was a coaching inn.

Post Office [1818]

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 14/12/1801 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Randle Walker, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Willenhall, near Wolverhampton, on Tuesday the 22nd Day of December instant, precisely at Four o’Clock in the Afternoon, subject to Conditions then to be produced: the said BULLS HEAD INN, well known as an old established and good accustomed Public House, consisting of a spacious Kitchen, a very large Parlour, near 30 Feet by 15, and which by a Wainscot Partition, occasionally makes two comfortable Rooms, a small Parlour, and proper Attics, Brewhouse, Cellars, &c and a Pump near to the Kitchen Door, well supplied with exceeding good Water, now in the Possession of Mr. *Jeffrey Tildesley*.

The Premises are Copyhold of Inheritance within the Manor of the Prebend of Willenhall.

For further Particulars apply to the Auctioneer, or at the Office of Messrs. Chrees, Wightwick, and Chrees, Attornies, Wolverhampton.”

* probably the same person

Jeffery Tildesley = Jeffrey Tildesley = Jeffrey Tildesley

1841 Census

Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Jeffry Tildesley* (35), victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Sarah Tildesley (30), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Joseph Tildesley (7), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Maria Tildesley (5), born Staffordshire;
- [5] George Tildesley (1), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Mary Price (15), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [7] Mary Rutter (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

Jefferey Tildesley (1804–1884) was also a farmer. [1845], [1849]

1851 Census

Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Jeffrey Tildesley* (45), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sarah Winn Tildesley (44), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Joseph Tildesley (17), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Maria Tildesley (15), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Jeffrey Tildesley (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] George Tildesley (6), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] James Tildesley (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [8] Mary Kidson (18), niece, house servant, born Willenhall:

1861 Census

Wolverhampton Street – BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *Jeffrey Tildesley* (57), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sarah Tildesley (54), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] James Tildesley (14), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Ellen Alwen (21), general servant, born Liverpool;
- [5] Mary Davies (13), general servant, born Bilston:

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 29/8/1868 - Marriages

“On the 25th inst, at St. Giles's Church, Willenhall, by the Rev. T. W. Fletcher, vicar of St. Stephen's, Job Williams, third son of Mr. William Philips, military stamper in general, Ragnal Street, Willenhall, to Hannah Maria, only daughter of the late *John Tildesley*, proprietor of the BULLS HEAD, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall.”

1871 Census

Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Mary A. Tildesley* (45), widow, innkeeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Hannah M. Phillips (22), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [3] Job H. Phillips (23), son in law, die sinker born Willenhall;
- [4] Phoebe Whitehouse (20), general servant, born Wyrley, Staffordshire:

Mary Ann Tildesley died in 1874.

[Birmingham Daily Post 13/1/1874](#)

“Yesterday, at the County Police Court, the following beerhouse license transfers were granted.....

BULLS HEAD, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall, from the executors of *Mary Ann Tildesley* to *Jeffrey Tildesley*.”

1881 Census

50, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Jeffery Tildesley* (36), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ellen Tildesley (25), wife, born Lane Head;
- [3] *Jeffery Tildesley* (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Frank Tildesley (4), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Emily Tildesley (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Gertrude Tildesley (9 months), daughter, born Willenhall;

[7] Eliza Whitehouse (31), general servant, born Willenhall;

[8] Jane Terry (12), nurse, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/3/1886

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, William Cox (42), labourer, Bunker’s Hill Road, Moseley Village, was charged with unlawfully wounding John Cornforth, labourer, Green Lanes, Bilston.

Evidence was given that on Tuesday evening the men began quarrelling in the BULLS HEAD INN, Wolverhampton Street. Cornforth accused prisoner of having been sent to gaol for fowl stealing, and prisoner picked up a heavy poker and struck him twice across the face, fracturing his jaw. The injured man was taken to the hospital, and for some time he was in a critical condition. Prisoner was remanded for a week.”

1891 Census

50, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Reuben Holland* (45), coal miner, born Oldbury;

[2] Maria Holland (36), wife, born Short Heath:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/10/1896

“The owners of the BULLS HEAD INN, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall, were summoned with failing to comply with notices served on behalf of the sanitary authorities. Mr. Rowland Tildesley, clerk to the Urban District Council, said that the case was not an ordinary one, as in October, 1894, a notice was served to abate the nuisance complained of, and the property had been condemned by the Medical Officer of Health. He was not justified in asking for the case to be withdrawn on payment of costs as in other instances, as the authorities had had a great deal of trouble with the owners. It was the worst case in the town. Sanitary Inspector Starkey said that refuse from urinal, sinks, &c, ran into the streets. A fine of 10s and costs was imposed, and an order for the work to be done in 14 days or else accumulative penalties of 10s per day would be enforced.”

Wolverhampton Licensing Sessions (August 1899)

The license renewal of *John Hill* was opposed “on grounds that he had erected a wooden shed in which dancing music, gymnastics etc. took place without having got the sanction of the bench”

- renewed on condition that proper application be made.

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/8/1899

“The license of the BULLS HEAD INN, Willenhall, was renewed on condition that a room used for dancing was closed until application was made for authority.”

1901 Census

Wolverhampton Street, Court 1 – BULLS HEAD

[1] *John Alexander Hill* (37), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] Mary Hill (37), wife, born Audley, Staffordshire;

[3] Gladys Catherine Hill (4), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] Gwendoline May Hill (1), daughter, born Willenhall;

[5] May Hill (17), sister, domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Lichfield Mercury 26/6/1908

“The principal meeting of the members of the Staffordshire Licensing Committee was held at the Shirehall, Stafford. There was a full attendance of the members of the committee, Lord Hatherton presiding. The business before the committee was that of hearing and determining applications for the renewal of licenses in those cases which had been referred to the committee by the justices in petty sessions for compensation. The list contained forty public houses. There was a large attendance of barristers and solicitors, but in none of the cases were any objections raised to the reports of the justices concerning the houses referred, and the committee refused to renew the licenses in each of the forty cases which came before them. The following are the houses, the licenses of which were refused.....

OLD BULLS HEAD, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall, full license.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/6/1908 - Notice

“The Licensing Act 1904. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 18th day of June, 1908, to refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below, All Persons Claiming to be Interested in the said Premises for the purpose of the payment of Compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 20th day of July, 1908, for the purpose of enabling the Compensation Authority to ascertain in manner provided by the Licensing Rules 1904, the Persons entitled to Compensation under the said Act in respect of the said Premises.....

OLD BULLS HEAD, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall. Full License. Licensee, *William John Powell*. Registered Owners, Messrs. Robinson.”

Lichfield Mercury 8/1/1909

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.....

The Licensing Committee presented a report for the year 1908.....

The Commissioners of Inland Revenue gave their decisions in the cases referred to them last year.....

OLD BULLS HEAD, Willenhall, £500.”

Closed

It was demolished in 1927.

BUSH

Cross Street, (Lichfield Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Coleman [1833] – [1835]

Joseph Trubshaw [1841] – [1842]

NOTES

Lichfield Street [1833]

John Coleman was also a painter and glazier. [1833]

1841 Census

Cross Street

[1] *Joseph Trupshaw* (40), shoemaker (?) publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Elizabeth Trupshaw* (35), born Staffordshire;

[3] *John Trupshaw* (13), born Staffordshire;

[4] *Mary Trupshaw* (8), born Staffordshire;

[5] *William Trupshaw* (11), born Staffordshire;

[6] *Ann Hackett* (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

CASE IS ALTERED, THE

Wolverhampton Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Pedley [1833] – [1850]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Richard Pedley was born on 7th October 1788.

He was the son of Richard and Mary Pedley.

Richard Pedley, shoemaker and retail brewer, Wolverhampton Street. [1833]

1841 Census

Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Richard Pedley* (50), shoe maker, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Ann Pedley* (50), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Harriet Pedley* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Elizabeth Pedley* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Richard Pedley* (14), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Ann Pedley* (12), born Staffordshire;
- [7] *Cecelia Pedley* (10), born Staffordshire;
- [8] *Elijah Poole* (15), shoe app, born Staffordshire;
- [9] *Joseph Marshall* (11), shoe app, born Staffordshire:

Richard Pedley, retailer of beer, Wolverhampton Street. [1850]

CASHMANS ARMS

WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Gerrard [1818]

CASTLE

30, (33), New Road / Peel Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler & Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Centric

LICENSEES

James Bird [1841] – [1862]
Alfred Ford* [1864]
Albert Ford* [1868]
Alfred Ford* [1871] – **1877**);
Mrs. Hannah ‘Ann’ Ford (**1877** – [1896]
Frank Slater [1900] – [1921]
Arthur Ernest Alcock [1932]
James Davis [1940]
Daniel Berry [1983]
Kevin Hagger [1994]
Gordon Mills [2007]

NOTES

33, New Road [1881], [1908], [1932], [1940]
30, New Road [1891], [1911]

1841 Census

New Road

- [1] *James Bird* (30), victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Rhoda Bird* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Mary Bird* (1), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Elizabeth Tomkinson* (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/12/1849

“Reuben Brown was committed for trial, charged with stealing a fork, the property of Mr. *James Bird*, CASTLE INN, Willenhall. The accused was seen by the landlord to put the fork in his pocket, and it was subsequently found there. The prisoner’s defence was that he had taken the fork to toast some cheese with.”

1851 Census

New Road

- [1] *James Bird* (41), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Rhoda Bird* (33), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Mary Bird* (10), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Ellen Bird* (7), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *William Bird* (5), son, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/9/1858 - Deaths

“On the 20th instant, deeply regretted, aged 40 years, *Rhoda*, the wife of Mr. *James Bird*, of the CASTLE INN, New Road, Willenhall.”

1861 Census

New Road

- [1] *James Bird* (51), widower, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Bird* (20), daughter, barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ellen Bird* (17), daughter, barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Bird* (15), son, factor’s apprentice, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Hannah Hadley* (20), house servant, born Walsall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/4/1861

“An inquest was held at the CASTLE INN, Willenhall, on Monday last, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, on the body of *Reuben Brown*, aged 20 years. The body of the deceased was found in the river Tame, on Thursday last, and it was supposed that as he was subject to fits he had, whilst fishing, been seized with a fit, fallen into the river and was drowned. The jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

* probably the same person

Alfred Ford married *Mary Bird* in the 4th quarter of 1861.

1871 Census

New Road

- [1] *Alfred Ford* (35), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Ford* (30), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ellen Ford* (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Frederick Ford* (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *James B. Ford* (6), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Fanny Ford* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Emily Ford* (10 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Ellen Bird* (27), sister in law, barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Hannah Hadley* (30), domestic servant, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/7/1872

“An adjourned meeting of the newly-formed Chartermasters’ Association was held on Tuesday night, at the WHITE LION INN, Darlaston, and there was a large attendance. Mr. S. Bayley, of Walsall, presided.

With reference to the conference of mine agents and chartermasters, which, according to the programme fixed on Friday, should have taken place at an earlier hour, it was stated that the several mine agents of the district had been seen on the subject, and had expressed an opinion that, bearing in mind the different conditions upon which the charters were fixed in various parts of the district, no united action on their part could possibly arise from a conference with the association, and that therefore the better course would be for each agent to deal separately with the chartermasters associated with him. Under these circumstances no conference had taken place. Attention was given to the subject of the increased advantages requisite to compensate the chartermasters for the concessions granted to the men, but in the end it was deemed advisable to defer the further consideration of the subject until a future meeting. A decided opinion was expressed, however, that the advance of one-ninth was not sufficient, it being merely an advance of the same extent as that granted to the men, while the chartermasters were deprived of one hour’s work per day from

which to gain a profit. The idea that the association was animated by a spirit antagonistic to the men's interest, was strongly deprecated.

About 100 members were enrolled, and a subscription of £1 from each of the local associations towards the funds of the central association received. Meetings were then fixed for Thursday evening, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Bilston; the CASTLE INN, Willenhall; and the COMMERCIAL INN, Walsall; and for Friday evening, at the WHITE LION INN, Darlaston."

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

"'Defensio, Non Provocatio.' Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the 'Merchandize Marks Act, 1862,' and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association. Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers' Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.

Willenhall: *A Ford*, CASTLE INN, New Road; A. Vaughan, GRAPES INN, Wood Street; Mrs. A. Marston, HOPE AND ANCHOR, Little London; I. Pitt, WHITE LION, Lichfield Street."

Birmingham Daily Post 19/10/1877

"The county magistrates transferred the licenses of the following alehouses on Tuesday.

CASTLE INN, New Road, Willenhall, to *Ann Ford*, as administratrix of her deceased husband, *Alfred*."

1881 Census

33, New Road

- [1] *Hannah Ford* (40), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Ellen Ford (18), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [3] Frederick Ford (16), son, carpenter and joiner, born Willenhall;
- [4] James B. Ford (16), son, solicitor's junior clerk, born Willenhall;
- [5] Fanny Ford (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Emily Ford (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Edwin Ford (9), son, school, born Willenhall;
- [8] Ellen Hadley (22), general servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

30, New Road

- [1] *Hannah Ford* (50), widow, licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] Ellen Ford (28), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [3] James B. Ford (26), son, county court clerk, born Willenhall;
- [4] Fanny Ford (22), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Emily Ford (20), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Edwin Ford (19), son, butcher, born Willenhall;
- [7] Ellen Hadley (33), general servant, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

New Road – CASTLE INN

- [1] *Frank Slater* (30), innkeeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Lucy Slater (32), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Lucy Louisa Slater (7), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Herbert Vincent Slater (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Laura Groucutt (21), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [6] Laura Aston (20), general servant, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 13/3/1909

"An inquest was held at the CASTLE INN, New Road, Willenhall, on Monday morning, respecting the death of Mary Jane McMahon (20), who resided with her parents at 18, Railway Street, Willenhall, and who died suddenly the previous Thursday.

It appears that on Thursday morning she complained of pains in her head. She grew very ill, and witness twice went for the doctor, but was unable to find him. Deceased expired at 12.30 the same day.

Dr. Tildesley said the deceased complained to him of feelings of distension and fullness about the stomach. She looked very ill,

was pale, and extremely thin. She told witness she had been in the habit of drinking large quantities of water and tea. Witness had since made a post mortem examination of the body, and stated that he found the stomach distended almost like a balloon, the walls being so thin as to be quite transparent. The heart was diseased. He considered the excessive thirst of the deceased was due to diabetes, and the drinking of large quantities of water had brought on acute dilation of the stomach, causing a sudden heart failure. A verdict in accordance with this evidence was returned.”

AND

“An inquest was held by Mr. T. Allen Stokes (coroner), at the CASTLE INN, New Road, Willenhall, on Tuesday morning, touching the death of Joseph Phillips Hall (50), bachelor, of 23, New Road, who was found hanged on Sunday.

Henry Hall, a brother, said deceased was formerly a bedding manufacturer in Wolverhampton, but had to give up business ten years ago, on account of his health. On Sunday afternoon deceased went upstairs, and when shortly afterwards he called to him, his brother Benjamin who was in bed with a cold, said that deceased was not there. Witness then went upstairs and found deceased hanging from the bed-post by a cord. The cord was cut, but death had already taken place. Drs. Tildesley and Scott, who were immediately summoned, confirming this decision.

In reply to the coroner, Mr. Hall said he had several times heard his brother say that he wished he was dead. Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind was the verdict.”

1911 Census

30, New Road

[1] *Frank Slater* (40), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] *Lucy Slater* (42), wife, married 18 years, born Willenhall;

[3] *Lucy Louisa Slater* (17), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] *Herbert Vincent Slater* (15), son, born Willenhall;

[5] *Edith Slater* (5), daughter, born Willenhall:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall (Butlers) Darts League. [1946]

[2016]

[Express & Star 19/9/2018](#)

“A town centre road has been closed by police after a lorry crashed into scaffolding on the side of a pub. The Uptonsteel lorry crashed outside the CASTLE pub in New Road, Willenhall, at around 11am today. West Midlands Police officers are at the scene on the B4464 and have sealed off the road while it is made safe. Pictures taken at New Road suggest the lorry was turning into Peel Street when it crashed and forced the scaffolding to have come away from the building. A worker was left standing on the scaffolding around 20ft high.”

[Express & Star 17/11/2018](#)

“Four fire crews tackled a blaze at a Willenhall pub in the early hours of today.

Firefighters were called to a severe fire at the CASTLE in New Road at 4.40am. The fire has caused major damage inside the building which had been due to reopen in the coming weeks under new management. The fire was out by 8am and investigators were this morning working at the scene to establish the cause.”

[Express & Star 26/5/2022](#)

“A pigeon trapped in a disused pub in Willenhall has been rescued by the RSPCA and released back into the wild. The pigeon had become trapped between the glass and a piece of wood which had been used to board up the windows at the CASTLE pub, located on the corner of Peel Street. A concerned member of the public spotted the pigeon and contacted the RSPCA who attended last week. RSPCA inspector Claire Davey said, ‘The pigeon had become trapped in a window three storeys up. The board didn’t go right to the top of the window, so the pigeon had got in through the gap and had dropped down and then unfortunately couldn’t get back out.’ Claire wasn’t able to access the window, so she called on the assistance of West Midlands Fire Service and a crew from Willenhall Fire Station quickly arrived to help. ‘The crew were fantastic and used their specialist working at height equipment to get to the window and get him out,’ said Claire. ‘Luckily the pigeon was unharmed and apart from being a bit distressed from the whole ordeal, I was able to release him back into the wild at a local park. It was great to see him fly off happily. He must have been very stressed being confined in the small place so it was great to get him out. I’d like to thank the fire service for their assistance which once again demonstrates the strong partnership working we continue to have.’”

[Express & Star 4/1/2023](#)

“A fire-hit Willenhall pub which has been closed for more than four years could be transformed into new apartments. Applicant Amrik Singh is looking to convert the former CASTLE INN pub on New Road into seven flats, with the development including an extension to the existing building. The pub was closed in 2018 and was set to undergo a refurbishment until a severe fire caused huge damage to the inside of the building. It never reopened and efforts to market it as a pub business for future landlords to take on proved unsuccessful. The venue hit the headlines for the wrong reasons again in 2020 when police discovered a £500,000 cannabis factory inside. Agents MTC Planning and Design said, ‘The CASTLE INN traded in June 2018, it was then closed so that full refurbishment could take place. Unfortunately, before this was completed a severe fire occurred that caused extensive internal damage. As a result the public house never re-opened and remained boarded and closed to the public. As such the pub has not traded for four years, was available to purchase by would be potential landlords to run as a going concern but no interest has been

expressed. It is clear from an internal inspection that significant sums of money would be required to repair and restore the public house into a usable site, a cost that would be very risky due to a) the current economic climate that is severely affecting public houses, and b) the fact that this site has long lost its trade. Therefore, it is clear that the public house is redundant and can be considered suitable for conversion, re-use, and refurbishment. The proposals are to partially demolish the outbuildings to the former CASTLE INN public house, convert the existing buildings into studio style apartments and construct a two-story rear extension to include a 7th apartment. The proposals will seek to preserve a prominent local building, provide residential accommodation that does not cause overlooking issues to existing neighbouring properties, and improve existing site access. The design seeks to reuse a redundant building in a viable way that provides accommodation in a sustainable location.”

CAT

113, Bloxwich Road South (50, (96), Bloxwich Road, (50, Monmore Lane, (Monmer Lane))), / Clothier Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Philip Taylor [1868]
Edwin Lewis [1871] – [1881]
Frederick Gardner [1891] – [1896]
Charles Booth [1901]
William Edward Baker [1932]
Alfred Denis Corfield [1939] – [1940]
R Southall [1976]
Michael Finlay [1983]
Jan Wilkes (1996 – [1998])
Kathleen Hoyle [2007]

NOTES

96, Bloxwich Road [1871]
50, Bloxwich Road [1881], [1932], [1940]
50, Monmore Lane [1891]

It was originally the SWAN.

WHITE SWAN [1922], [1939], [1940]

It was known locally as the “Cat”.

It had a beerhouse license.

London Gazette 13/11/1868

“*Philip Taylor*, late of the OLD CROWN INN, Stafford-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper and Journeyman Locksmith, since and now of the SWAN INN, Monmore-lane, Willenhall aforesaid, Beerhouse Keeper and Journeyman Locksmith, adjudicated bankrupt on the 29th day of September, 1868. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, on the 3rd day of November, 1868.”

1871 Census

96, Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Edwin Lewis* (42), beerhouse keeper, SWAN, born Worcester;
- [2] *Eliza Lewis* (29), wife, born Langley, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Edwin J. R. H. Lewis* (10), son, born Swinney, Shropshire;
- [4] *Mary Jane Lewis* (4), daughter, born Langley, Worcestershire;
- [5] *Ellen Elizabeth Lewis* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Annie Lewis* (3 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Richard Lewis* (68), father, contractor, born Worcestershire;
- [8] *Elizabeth Lewis* (66), mother, born Salford, Warwickshire;

1881 Census

50, Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Edwin Lewis* (52), licensed victualler, born Worcester;
- [2] *Eliza Lewis* (39), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ellen Lewis* (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Annie Lewis* (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Thomas Lewis* (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Edwin Lewis* (6), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Alfred Lewis* (4), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *George Lewis* (1), son, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

50, Monmore Lane

- [1] *Frederick Gardner* (38), publican, born Melford, Suffolk;
- [2] *Jane Gardner* (38), wife, born Canterbury;
- [3] *Albert Gardner* (20), son, lock fitting maker, born Woolwich, Kent;
- [4] *Alice Gardner* (19), daughter, born London;
- [5] *Mary Gardner* (17), daughter, born London;
- [6] *Maud Gardner* (14), daughter, born London;
- [7] *John Gardner* (12), son, born London:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/7/1891

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) held an inquest at the SWAN INN, Monmore Lane, Willenhall, yesterday, touching the death of Daniel Wellings (5), who lived with his parents in Monmore Lane. On the 28th inst. the deceased was playing on the Birmingham Canal side with a boy named John Seager. Deceased asked Seager to roll down the embankment, but he refused, and deceased then rolled down the bank and fell into the water and was drowned. An alarm was raised, and the body recovered. The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned.”

1901 Census

Bloxwich Road – SWAN INN

- [1] *Charles Booth* (55), publican or tavern keeper, born Bilston;
 - [2] *Emma Booth* (48), wife, born Lichfield;
 - [3] *Thomas Booth* (21), son, coal miner, underground loader, born Darlaston;
 - [4] *Ada Booth* (6), daughter, born New Invention:
- [Charles, Emma and Ada were living in St. Anns Road by 1911.]

South Staffordshire Times 4/2/1922

“Willenhall Police Court.

George Hall, formerly a farm bailiff of Ashmore Park Cottage, Wednesfield, was charged with obtaining one pint of ale, value 7d, by false pretences from Edith Male, of the SARACEN’S HEAD INN, on the 20th ult.

Prosecutrix, the wife of Joseph Benjamin Male, said the defendant came to the house on the morning of the 20th ult., and asked for a pint of beer. She took it to him in the taproom. He began to search his pockets saying he ought to have a pound note in one of them, but he must have left it either in another coat, or on the table at his own house. He then said he passed the house every day, and would pay for the beer on the following day. He entered into a conversation about supplying a rabbit, or a fowl, and prosecutrix said she would have one from him if the price were reasonable. He said he could let her have a fowl for 2s 6d. When defendant left the house prosecutrix became a bit suspicious especially as she saw him enter another public-house and she sent a niece to inform the landlord what had happened.

PC Craddock said he saw defendant at his house in Wednesfield and charged him with the offence. He replied, ‘All right.’

Defendant pleaded guilty, and said he was willing to pay for the ale.

There were three similar charges against defendant in connection with the BLACK LION INN, the BEEHIVE, and the WHITE SWAN, to which defendant also pleaded guilty.

In the first case defendant was fined £1 and costs, and ordered to pay costs in each of the other cases, a total of £4 15s.

Supt. Higgs said that complaints of similar conduct against defendant were made in November and December last, and it was a practice that ought to be stopped. Defendant had rendered himself liable under the new Act, to a penalty of £30 for consuming ale before paying for it.”

William Edward Baker, beer retailer, 50, Bloxwich Road. [1932]

1939 Register

Bloxwich Road – WHITE SWAN

- [1] *Alfred D. Corfield*, date of birth 23/12/1898, public house manager, married;
- [2] *Nancy I. Corfield*, dob 6/11/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [5] *Elsie Thomas*, dob 8/12/1921, bar general, single:

SWAN, P.H. (*Alfred Dennis Corfield*), 50 Bloxwich Road. [1940]

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/4/1940

“At a meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Committee, held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Thursday.....

There were eight application for the confirmation of orders made by local licensing justices.....

The committee confirmed an order granted in respect of an application made by *Alfred Denis Corfield* to sell wine at the WHITE SWAN INN, Bloxwich Road, Willenhall.”

It was renamed the CAT in 1996.

It had a darts team. [1998]

[2010]

Closed [2011]

Reopened [2012]

Closed [2015]

It was converted into a restaurant and takeaway. [2016]

CAVALCADE

Stroud Avenue, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Grant McMurchie [1994]

NOTES

[1976]

Grant McMurchie was married to Julie.

He died in 1995.

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We’ve a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

CAVALCADE, Stroud Avenue, Willenhall.”

[2007]

Closed

Demolished c.2010.

CHAMBERLAIN

3, Upper Lichfield Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Raymond Holyhead [2007]

NOTES

[2005]

It closed in 2015.

It became Laser 20 gaming venue. [2015]

CLEMSON ARMS

Clemson Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Jesse Banks [1871] – **1873**;
George Parkes (**1873** – []

NOTES

Clemson Street [1873]

CLEMPSON ARMS [1873]

1871 Census

Clemson Street – Beershop

- [1] Jesse Banks (34), pad locksmith and beerseller, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ann Banks (33), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Catherine Banks (14), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] John Banks (12), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Louisa Banks (9), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Jesse Banks (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Sarah Banks (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] Joseph Read (24), lodger, keystamper, born Willenhall;
- [9] Samuel Read (20), lodger, pad locksmith, born Willenhall:

Jesse Banks – see also **PLOUGH**.

CLEVELAND ARMS

Smokey Row, Furlong Field, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Evan Lloyd [1851]
Richard Bate [1868] – [1871]

NOTES

Furlong Field [1870]
Smokey Row [1871]

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/5/1844

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

On Saturday last, at the CLEVELAND ARMS, Portobello, on the body of a boy named James Edwards, the deceased had gone to a pit in the Cleveland colliery, with the breakfast of one of the miners, and while placing it in a skip, accidentally fell into a pit, and was dashed to pieces..... the verdict in each case was Accidental Death”

1871 Census

Smokey Row

- [1] *Richard Bate* (38), licensed victualler, born Alvechurch;
- [2] *Harriett Bate* (40), wife, born Donnington Wood, Shropshire;
- [3] *Caroline Lloyd* (18), daughter, born Moseley Hole;
- [4] *Elizabeth Smith* (7), daughter, scholar, born Moseley Hole;
- [5] *Harriett Bate* (4), daughter, scholar, born Moseley Hole;
- [6] *John Bate* (3), son, scholar, born Moseley Hole:

Check Wolverhampton Road, Wednesfield

COACH AND HORSES

21, Hall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Burns [1876]
John Handford [] – **1881**;
Philip Ordidge (**1881** – []
Mary Catherine Martland [1887]
H Mortiboy [1890]
William Thomas Ridge [1891] – [1892]
Alfred E Burrows [1901]
Thomas Eccleston [1904]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

London Gazette 16/5/1876

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Thomas Burns*, of the COACH AND HORSES, Hall-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Messrs. Stratton and Rudland, 57, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, on the 27th day of May, 1876, at half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 12th day of May, 1876.

Stratton and Rudland, 57, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, Solicitors for the said Debtor.”

1881 Census

21, Hall Street – COACH AND HORSES INN

- [1] *John Handford* (46), publican, born Darlaston;
- [2] *Harriet Handford* (46), wife, born Old Park, Shropshire;
- [3] *Rebecca Rhodes* (16), general servant, born Old Park, Shropshire:

Wolverhampton Express and Star 30/3/1885 - Advert

“The COACH AND HORSES INN, Hall Street, Willenhall, to Let.
Apply, Mr. Thomas Russell, Great Western Street Brewery, Wolverhampton.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/4/1887

“*Mary Catherine Martland*, landlady of the COACH AND HORSES, Hall Street, was yesterday charged with, on the 12th inst., permitting drunkenness on her licensed premises; also keeping her house open for the sale of intoxicants during prohibited hours. The evidence against the defendant was that on the night in question Police-constable Hand found two men on the premises shortly after eleven. Both were very drunk, and were fighting. About half-past one he returned, and found three men there and a woman, all drunk, on the premises. The defendant also slightly intoxicated. Defendant was fined £3 and cost in each case, altogether £7 4s.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/11/1890

“Mr. Joseph B. Lees had received instructions from the Trustee of the late Mr. William Blakemore, to Offer the following Valuable Properties for Sale by Auction, at the house of Mr. Joseph Lawrence, SWAN HOTEL, Market Place, Willenhall, on Tuesday, December 2, 1890, at Six for Seven o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions of sale which will incorporate the common form conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Society, in the following or such other lots as may be decided upon at the time of sale. Lot 9. All that Desirable and Substantially-built Beerhouse, known as the COACH AND HORSES, in Hall Street, together with the large Entry and all necessary Outbuildings in an enclosed Yard, as shown on the Sale Plan, and now in the occupation of Mr. *H. Mortiboy* as a yearly tenant, at the net rental of £24 per annum. This House is well adapted for the trade, and is in the most densely-populated portion of the town. The Auctioneer wishes to call special attention to this sale, as it is the most important one that has been held in town for a considerable number of years, and it embraces a class of property that very seldom finds its way into the public market. For further particulars and to inspect plans, apply to the Auctioneer, 2, New Road, Willenhall; or to Mr. John Clark, Solicitor, Willenhall.”

1891 Census

21, Hall Street

- [1] *William T. Ridge* (57), beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Rebecca T. Ridge* (55), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Ellen Ridge* (17), daughter, born Lichfield;
- [4] *Harry Ridge* (14), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Frederick H. Ridge* (10), son, scholar, born Birmingham:

1901 Census

21, Hall Street – COACH AND HORSES INN

- [1] *Alfred E. Burrows* (28), commercial traveller and beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Florence M. Burrows* (26), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Edmund R. Burrows* (1), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Hannah Hadley* (17), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Rose Jenkins* (27), barmaid, born Willenhall:

[1908]

COCK

63, High Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

- Thomas Lester [1860s]
- Ann Lister [1881]
- Thomas Passent [1891]

Edward Lewis Davies [1940]

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Thomas Lester, COCK INN, Portobello, 2s 6d and costs.”

1881 Census

High Street, Portobello – COCK INN

- [1] *Ann Lister* (78), widow, beer seller, born Portobello;
- [2] *Thomas Passent* (52), son in law, colliery labourer, born Shrewsbury;
- [3] *Eliza Passent* (55), wife, house keeper, born Broseley, Shropshire;
- [4] *Abraham Lister* (19), grandson, locksmith, born Portobello;
- [5] *Jane Longman* (19), domestic servant, born Portobello;
- [6] *James Harris* (21), boarder, coal miner, born Portobello:

1891 Census

Court 7, High Street – COCK INN

- [1] *Thomas Passent* (62), beer seller, born Shropshire;
- [2] *Eliza Passent* (66), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Hannah Bratt* (15), general servant, born Willenhall:

[1908]

COCK

78, (10), Walsall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

J. and J. Yardley and Co. Limited [1908]

LICENSEES

David Brindley [1865] – [1881]

John Foster [1891] – [1892]

Thomas Ellis [1901]

Edward Ball [1908]

NOTES

10, Walsall Street [1871]

78, Walsall Street [1881], [1891], [1901]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

David Brindley, key maker and beer retailer, Walsall Street. [1865]

David Brindley, beer retailer, Walsall Street. [1868], [1872]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been

fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

David Brindley, COCK INN, Willenhall, 1s and costs.....”

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for permitting gaming.....

David Brindley, COCK INN, Willenhall, 20s and costs.”

London Gazette 1/2/1870

“*David Brindley*, of Walsall-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Keymaker, Beer Retailer, and Dealer in Tobacco, adjudicated bankrupt on the 29th day of November, 1869. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, on the 27th day of January, 1870.”

1871 Census

10, Walsall Street – COCK INN

[1] *David Brindley* (46), licensed victualler and key maker, born Willenhall;

[2] Elizabeth Brindley (43), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Thomas Brindley (20), son, key maker, born Willenhall;

[4] Sarah A. Brindley (18), daughter, born Willenhall;

[5] David Brindley (15), son, key maker, born Willenhall;

[6] Sidney Brindley (13), son, key maker, born Willenhall;

[7] Elizabeth Brindley (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[8] George G. Brindley (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[9] John Brindley (4), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[10] Elizabeth Pitt (79), mother, born Perry Barr;

[11] William Somers (40), boarder, lock maker, birthplace unknown;

[12] John Somers (14), lock maker, born Willenhall;

[13] Ann James (14), general servant, born Wednesfield;

[14] Thomas Walker (18), boarder, key maker, born Willenhall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/4/1874

“Alexandra Park Recreation Grounds, Rood End, near Oldbury.

The above beautiful grounds, which are available from all parts of England, being situated within a few minutes’ walk of Oldbury, Spon Lane, and the Smethwick stations on the Stour Valley Railway, and Westbromwich, Smethwick Junction, and Rood End stations on the Great Western Railway (Rood End in particular, being only 300 yards distant), are reopen to the public, and the proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Bradley, respectfully announce that they will give £15 to be contested for in an All England Foot Race, distance 135 yards, on Saturday and Monday, April 18 and 20. First prize £10, second £4, third £1. Entrance 1s 6d, no acceptance, to be declared on or before Tuesday, April 14. Wednesday morning’s letters will be in time. All entries to be made at the grounds, or at any of the following places.....

Brindley’s, COCK INN, Willenhall.....

Betting and gambling strictly prohibited. No one allowed to run unless in proper costume.”

Sporting Life 6/10/1877

“Lea Brook Recreation Grounds, Wednesbury.....

Mr. James Harding begs respectfully to inform his friends and lovers of the canine species that he will give £13 to be run for in a 200 yards all-England dog handicap on Saturdays, October 13 and 20, first prize, £10; second, £2; third, £1. Entrance, 1s each.

Entries to close on Monday, October 8 (Tuesday morning’s post in time). No acceptance. Entries to be made to Mr. Harding, at the grounds; Mr. Holding, RED LION INN, Walsall; Mr. *Brindley*, COCK INN, Willenhall; Mr. G. Dudley, CROWN TUBE WORKS INN, Wednesbury; Mr. Bolton, BLUE PIG INN, Bilston; and Mr. J. Dudley, TRAVELLERS REST, Pinfold Street, Darlaston.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/1/1878

“*David Brindley*, landlord of the COCK INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, was summoned for having 11lb of grains of paradise in his possession, and for using grains of paradise in brewing. Mr. Clark appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Cresswell for the defence.

After Mr. Clark had opened the case, pointing out that the Bench could, if they thought the case proved, inflict a penalty of £200. Mr. Hill, supervisor of excise for Willenhall, was called. It appeared from his evidence that he visited the defendant’s premises, and upon an examination of some spent hops which the defendant had used for brewing, had reason to believe that grains of paradise had also been used. The defendant denied this, but an analysis was obtained which showed that grains of paradise had been used in large quantity.

The defence was that the brewing was left in the hands of a man engaged for the purpose, and that the defendant was not aware that any adulteration was being practised.

The Bench, after a brief consultation, said that they had decided to convict, but taking into consideration that the defendant was not, so far as they knew, a rich man, they should only impose the minimum penalty of £50.”

1881 Census

78, Walsall Street – COCK INN

- [1] *David Brindley* (56), key smith and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Brindley* (52), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Sarah A. Evans* (28), married daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *David D. Brindley* (26), son, house painter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *George G. Brindley* (18), son, door bolt forger, born Willenhall;
- [6] *John Brindley* (14), son, iron caster's labourer, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Martha Brindley* (9), granddaughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Eliza A. Evans* (6), granddaughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Willis Banks* (28), lodger, lock smith, born Willenhall;
- [10] *John Allbeard* (58), lodger, lock smith, born Willenhall:

David Brindley – see also ROSE AND CROWN.

1891 Census

78, Walsall Street

- [1] *John Foster* (42), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Foster* (50), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *John Foster* (15), son, carter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Edmund Foster* (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Florence Foster* (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Herbert Foster* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

78, Walsall Street

- [1] *Thomas Ellis* (65), inn keeper, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Emma Ellis* (35), wife, born Dudley Port:

[Lichfield Mercury 26/6/1908](#)

“The principal meeting of the members of the Staffordshire Licensing Committee was held at the Shirehall, Stafford. There was a full attendance of the members of the committee, Lord Hatherton presiding. The business before the committee was that of hearing and determining applications for the renewal of licenses in those cases which had been referred to the committee by the justices in petty sessions for compensation. The list contained forty public houses. There was a large attendance of barristers and solicitors, but in none of the cases were any objections raised to the reports of the justices concerning the houses referred, and the committee refused to renew the licenses in each of the forty cases which came before them. The following are the houses, the licenses of which were refused.

COCK INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, ante-1869 beerhouse.”

[Birmingham Daily Post 27/6/1908 - Notice](#)

“The Licensing Act 1904. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 18th day of June, 1908, to refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below, All Persons Claiming to be Interested in the said Premises for the purpose of the payment of Compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 20th day of July, 1908, for the purpose of enabling the Compensation Authority to ascertain in manner provided by the Licensing Rules 1904, the Persons entitled to Compensation under the said Act in respect of the said Premises.....

COCK, Walsall Street, Willenhall. Beerhouse ante 1869. Licensee, *Edward Ball*. Licensed Owners, J. and J. Yardley and Co. Limited.”

[Lichfield Mercury 8/1/1909](#)

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.....

The Licensing Committee presented a report for the year 1908. They stated that the number of licenses referred from sixteen divisions and boroughs in the county was seventy-four, and the committee, having regard to the limited funds at their disposal, decided to proceed upon forty only.....

The committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard, upon oath, evidence put forward by the claimants.

The amounts awarded as compensation were as follows.....

COCK, Walsall Street, Willenhall, £450.”

Closed

COUNTY

7, (5), (11), (10), (9-11), (9+10), (29), (66), (8), Walsall Street, (8, Church Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Admiral Taverns

LICENSEES

George Freeth* [1818] – [1828]
George Frith* [1828] – [1830]
Ann Phillips [1833] – [1842]
Frederick Clark [1845] – [1859]
Mrs. Ann Clark [1860] – [1874]
David Bickley Snr. [1881] – [1892]
Mrs. Abigail Bickley [1896]
Richard Dudley [1900]
William C Worthington [1901]
James E Pascall [1904]
William Jabez Morrall [1908]
Harry Male [1911] – [1921] 17 years
George Edward Cox [1932]
Sydney S 'Sid' Wood [1935] – [1946]
J T Potts [1983]
Keith Boden (1985 – [1995]
Heather Dawn Green [2007]
Jamie Smith (2016 – [2017]
David Robins [2023]

NOTES

Walsall Street [1818], [1828], [1830], [1849], [1861], [1865]
Church Street [1842], [1850], [1851]
29, Walsall Street [1871]
66, Walsall Street [1874]
9-11, Walsall Street [1881]
10, Walsall Street [1892], [1908], [1916], [1921]
9+10, Walsall Street [1901]
8, Walsall Street [1904]
11, Walsall Street [1911]
5, Walsall Street [1997]
7, Walsall Street [2001], [2003], [2005]

It was originally the NEW INN.

* probably the same person

1841 Census

Walsall Street

[1] Ann Phillips (35), publican, born Staffordshire;
[2] Sarah Phillips (12), born Staffordshire;
[3] Ann Phillips (8), born Staffordshire;
[4] Sarah Bate (15), fs, born Staffordshire;
[5] Catherine Pease (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

Ann Phillips married Frederick Clarke in the 4th quarter of 1842.

Frederick Clark = Frederick Clarke

1851 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Frederick Clark* (44), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Clark* (45), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ann Phillips* (18), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *John Clark* (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Catharine Clark* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Mary Hughes* (16), servant, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Maria Hughes* (14), servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Journal 17/11/1855 - Advert

“To Maltsters, Brewers, Publicans, &c.

Improved Malt Mills, Double Geared, to gain either Speed or Power, and constructed to meet the requirements of the Excise Commissioners, are now being manufactured by Dixon, Bell, and Co.

These Mills may be seen in operation at the following places.....

Willenhall – At Mr. *Clarke*'s, NEW INN.....

Agent. Mr. Edmund W. Otway, Meyers Green, West Bromwich.”

Birmingham Journal 21/5/1859 - Advert

“By Mr. H. W. Greaser, on Friday next, the 27th day of May, at the house of Mr. *Frederick Clark*, sign of the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.

A Plot of Freehold Building Land, at the top of Alma Street, bounded by the Cemetery on one side, and on the other by Property of Mr. Thomas Hinks, and containing 269 square yards, or thereabouts.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneer, Cross Street, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/8/1859

“There are few small towns that possess so many provident societies, so well supported by the working classes, for whose benefit they are especially intended, as are to be found at Willenhall, a fact which must be considered as indicative of the frugal habits of the inhabitants. On Monday no fewer than five of these societies or clubs held their annual anniversaries. The first, and probably the most important, was that of Lodge No.2 of Benevolent Loyal Britons, who assembled at the Wesleyan Chapel, in New Street, where a suitable address was delivered by Mr. John Humpage, a blind man; after which they formed a procession, and, headed by a band of music from Bloxwich, proceeded to the NEW INNS, Walsall Street. There an excellent dinner had been provided by mine host *Frederick Clarke*, whose liberal catering was the theme of universal praise. In the absence of Mr. Hartill, the surgeon of the lodge, the chair was taken by Mr. *Clarke*, the landlord, the vice-chair being filled by Mr. William Johnson. The Secretary, Mr. Eber Marston, read the report, from which it appeared that the balance in hand amounted to about £550. The society numbers 114 members, all of whom were present.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/11/1859 - Deaths

“On the 30th ultimo, deeply regretted, Mr. *Frederick Clark*, of the NEW INN, Willenhall.”

Ann Clark = Ann Clarke

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/2/1861

“Willenhall Relief Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

Mrs. *Clarke*, NEW INN £1 10s.....

Total £137 14s 6d.

Further subscriptions are earnestly requested, as the distress is still great, in consequence of the very depressed state of the staple trade of the town.”

1861 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Ann Clark* (55), widow, victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Catherine Clark* (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ann Bruerton* (21), niece, barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Mary Wootton* (20), servant, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/10/1863

“On Thursday last, the members of the Willenhall Cricket Club sat down to an excellent supper prepared for them by Mrs. *Clarke*, of the NEW INNS, Walsall Street. The chair was occupied by the Treasurer of the Club (Mr. W. Parkes), and the vice-chair by Mr. J. Bennett, the honorary secretary. Supper over, and the customary loyal toasts having been drunk, the Secretary gave a brief sketch of the history of the club, and stated that six matches had been played during the summer of 1863, only one of which had been lost. A very interesting part of the evening's proceedings was the presentation of two new bats, one to Mr. N. Haynes, premier batsman, and the other to Mr. E. Tranter, the most successful bowler during the present season. The evening was passed in an agreeable manner.”

Ann Clark was also a butcher. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/8/1863

“Yesterday (Monday) the members of No.2 Lodge of the Benevolent Loyal Britons, held their eighteenth anniversary at the house of Mrs. *Clark*, NEW INN, Walsall Street. The members, numbering about 140, assembled at the hostess’s at eleven o’clock, and having formed into procession, marched round the town headed by No.1 Willenhall Old Band. Having reached the Wesleyan chapel an excellent sermon was delivered by the minister, the Rev. J. Connon, from the 14th chapter of St. John and part of the 33rd verse. After the service was concluded, the members again returned to the NEW INN, where a most substantial dinner had been prepared by the hostess in her usual excellent style. The chair was taken by Mr. Hartill, who conducted the proceedings with propriety, and gave the greatest satisfaction to all by the efficient way in which he discharged his duties.

Mr. John Hodson, secretary, sustained the duties of the vice-chair most ably.

During the afternoon, the usual loyal toasts were given, and the time spent in a pleasant and most agreeable manner. The financial report of the society showed £600 on mortgage, £15 in the Post Office Savings Bank and £25 8s 8d in the treasurer’s hands.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/4/1869

“On Friday, at the Wolverhampton Police Court, before Mr. I. Spooner, Henry Johns, now of Liverpool, summoned Lodge No.2 of the Benevolent Loyal Britons, held at the house of Mrs. *Ann Clark*, the NEW INN, Willenhall, for having expelled him from the society. Mr. Young (instructed by Messrs. Thurstans and Cartwright) appeared for the society. The complainant said he had been a member of the society for seventeen years, and had paid his subscriptions up to July, 1867. He went away on the 16th September, when there were two nights’ payment due. Some time afterwards he sent his mother a Post Office Order for the payment of ten nights’ subscription. When the complainant’s mother took the money to the general meeting of the society, the officers refused to take it, saying that the time had lapsed. This was on the 4th February, 1868, and they had since refused to allow the complainant to attend the meetings.

Mr. Young, for the defence, contended that the Statute of Limitations was against the complainant. The man had been a most irregular payer throughout the time he had been in the society. The complainant had really not suffered at all, because, although he had paid into the society the sum of £13 12s, yet he had received, as benefits, £14 14s from the society.

Mr. Spooner said no doubt the man had not much to complain of in equity, for he had certainly received more than he had paid in. Mr. Young then argued his objection with reference to the Statute of Limitations, at some length, and Mr. Spooner held that it was fatal to the complainant, as he ought to have made his complaint within six months. Mr. Spooner said he would grant the complainant a case if he wished it, but he thought it would not be worth while to take it.”

1871 Census

29, Walsall Street – NEW INN

- [1] *Ann Clark* (65), widow, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] John Clark (25), son, solicitor, born Willenhall;
- [3] Catherine Clark (22), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Charles Perks (20), grandson, butcher’s apprentice, born Willenhall;
- [5] Selina Gutteridge (18), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Midland Examiner 18/11/1876

“On Wednesday night, a dinner was given by Messrs. R. D. Gough, H. Vaughan, and M. Davies, the successful Church candidates at the recent School Board election, to a number of their friends and supporters, to celebrate their triumphant return. The dinner took place at the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall. Mr. R. D. Gough afterwards presided, and the toast of the evening ‘The health of the three Church members of the School Board’ was received enthusiastically.”

1881 Census

9, 10, and 11, Walsall Street – NEW INN

- [1] *David Bickley Snr.* (55), colliery manager and licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Abigail Bickley (55), wife, born Short Heath;
- [3] Susannah Bickley (25), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Sarah Ann Bickley (20), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Alfred Bickley (14), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Gladys M. Burley (1), granddaughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] Maria Betney (19), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Evening Express 13/4/1881

“Foresters’ Half-Yearly Meeting. Wolverhampton and Tipton District. The ninety-first meeting of the above district was held on Monday last, at the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall. DCR George Parkes occupied the chair.....”

1891 Census

Walsall Street – NEW INN

- [1] *David Bickley* (65), retired colliery proprietor, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Abigail Bickley (63), wife, born Lane Head;

- [3] Susannah Burley (36), daughter, married, born Willenhall;
- [4] Alfred Bickley (24), son, colliery manager, born Willenhall;
- [5] Gladys Burley (18), niece, born Willenhall;
- [6] Elizabeth Leek (17), general servant, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

9+10, Walsall Street

- [1] *William C. Worthington* (33), public house manager, born Willenhall;
- [2] Eliza Worthington (34), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Emily Worthington (12), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Edith Worthington (10), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Annie Fisher (23), general servant, born Willenhall:

Worcestershire Chronicle 22/2/1902

“A policeman paid a visit to the NEW INNS, Walsall Street, Willenhall, one night and found James Gregory, a Wolverhampton bailiff, drunk behind the bar. He was in sole possession of the inn, and, when the officer visited the house, had put himself in a fighting attitude towards the customers. A fine of 10s and costs was imposed.”

1911 Census

11, Walsall Street

- [1] *Harry Male* (31), publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Maud Elizabeth Male (27), wife, married 7 years, assisting in the business, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Mary Elizabeth Male (5), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Maud Edith Male (1), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Maud Bray (25), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Advertiser 8/2/1913

“Walsall Harriers. Today Walsall try their strength against their oldest opponents, Wolverhampton, at Willenhall, and unless Walsall turn up in strong force the Wolves are likely to score their first victory over them since their existence. The race is timed to start at 3.30, and a musical evening is anticipated. The run starts from NEW INNS, Walsall Road, Willenhall.”

South Staffordshire Times 8/11/1919

“A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned at an inquest held by Coroner, Mr. W. Gough Allen, at the NEW INN, on Monday, on the body of Fanny Lewis, aged 15 months, court 2, 2 house, Walsall Street, Willenhall. The child was the daughter of James and Fanny Lewis, and had been delicate since birth.”

It was rebuilt in the 1920s.

Walsall Observer 3/5/1941

“The large and representative attendance at the funeral yesterday week of Mrs. Maude *Male*, wife of Mr. *Harry Male*, licensee of the DUN COW, Wolverhampton Street, was an indication of the affectionate regard in which she was held not only in Walsall, but in Willenhall and Wolverhampton. One of the best-known figures in the Walsall licensing trade, Mrs. *Male* was 57, and had been with her husband at the DUN COW for 14 years. In that time Walsall people had come to admire her business capabilities, and many of the poorer folk in the neighbourhood will have cause to remember her unadvertised kindness towards them. She had been in poor health for two years and since Christmas her condition had further declined. Her death has robbed the Walsall Ladies' Bowling Club and the local Electrical Association for Women of an enthusiastic member, and the DUN COW of a charming hostess. A native of Heath Town, Mrs. *Male* went into the licensed trade with her husband in Wolverhampton and afterwards they were for seventeen years at the NEW INNS, Willenhall, whence they came to Walsall. She is survived by her husband and two daughters, Mrs. S. J. Wiley and Miss Edith *Male*. The Rev. T. E. W. Rudd conducted the choral funeral service at St. John's Church and the interment was at James Bridge Cemetery. There were about 50 floral tributes from sympathisers all around the district.”

Walsall Observer 18/3/1944

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society was held at the CRITERION HOTEL, Stafford Street, Walsall. Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair, and Mr. T. Hawkins (vice-president) the vice-chair. The President made sympathetic reference to the sudden death of the Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton), and as a mark of respect the members stood for a short time in silence. Sympathy was also expressed with Mr. James Bird and his wife and Mrs. Garfield in their illnesses. Mr. George Peach, KINGS HEAD, Stafford Street, Willenhall, and Mr. *Sidney Wood*, of the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, were elected members of the committee. Mr. Herbert Dallow, of the OLD CROWN INN, Willenhall, was elected a member of the society. A message was read from Mr. M. F. Harrison, secretary, expressing his thanks and greetings for the kind wishes extended to him on the occasion of his 85th birthday. The arrangements made for the forthcoming charity ball on Friday May 19, were reported. The society is arranging to co-operate with the appeal of the Mayor in aid of the Red Cross and St. John Staffordshire appeal, and a box collection will shortly be made. The next meeting will be at the TIGER INN, Walstead Road, on April 13.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 13/7/1946

“At a well-attended meeting of Willenhall licensees, including those from Short Heath and Portobello areas, held on Tuesday night at the THREE CROWNS, Stafford Street, Willenhall, a decision was taken as to the hours, which it was suggested that the public houses in the town should be opened at weekends during the present beer shortage.

The meeting was arranged by Mr. S. S. Wood, of the NEW INN, Walsall Street, who presided, and after a long discussion it was unanimously agreed to recommend that the following hours for opening should be observed: Fridays, from 8.30 to 10pm; and Saturdays and Sundays from 12.30 to 2pm and 8.30 to 10pm. During the remaining days, opening is to be left to the discretion of the licensees, to suit their requirements according to supplies.”

It was renamed COUNTY. [1979]

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn-Quiz. [1979]

Keith Boden was married to *Jacqui*.

Sandwell Evening Mail 10/9/1994

“Down Your Local. COUNTY, Walsall Street, Willenhall.

Step inside the COUNTY and you’d probably think you’re in the middle of the countryside – not Willenhall town centre. For this is a town pub which comes complete with oak beams and all the olde world charm of a country inn. But, those authentic-looking beams aren’t actually the real thing. They’re former railway sleepers.

Mine hosts *Keith* and *Jackie Boden* have been at the pub nine years, having spent two years at another Willenhall pub, the THREE CROWNS. Before that *Keith*, aged 52, worked as a jeweller for 20 years in Birmingham’s jewellery quarter. ‘He was made redundant and we both decided we’d like a crack at the pub trade,’ said 47-year-old *Jackie*.

The couple are currently ringing up rather large telephone bills – but they don’t mind a bit. Their 27-year-old son *David*, a graduate, is out in New Zealand working with his girlfriend until next Spring. ‘It means we have to rely on postcards and telephone calls to keep in touch. We ring each other quite a lot. It is expensive but worth it.’ The couple’s other son, *Stephen*, works in Leeds for the Ministry of Agriculture.

The COUNTY is a typical older street corner pub with a smart lounge and a public bar. The pub did have three rooms but was made into a two-roomed pub 25 years ago. It is renowned locally for its speciality beef ‘sticks’ – tasty home-cooked beef and gravy in French sticks, and all for just £1.....

One of the more unusual features of the COUNTY is *Keith*’s greenhouse – it’s on the pub roof! ‘It’s a bit of an unusual place for a greenhouse but it produces some terrific tomatoes,’ he said. ‘It certainly seems to generate a lot of interest.’

The pub has successful crib, football, pool and dominoes teams.....”

Express & Star 16/6/2023

“A community pub in Willenhall will reopen soon after an investment of £230,000. The COUNTY on Walsall Street is part of Proper Pubs, the community wet-led operator division of Admiral Taverns, which has more than 175 pubs across England, Scotland, and Wales. Behind the bar will be operator *David Robins*, who has a wealth of knowledge and expertise in the hospitality industry, having run several other pubs for the past 12 years. He looks forward to welcoming old and new customers to the COUNTY and further cementing it as a community pillar. Inside, the pub has been completely transformed with new furniture, flooring and soft furnishing throughout to ensure a more welcoming look and feel. Both the front and back bars have also been revamped, with a pool and darts area installed in its function room with a new sound system. The COUNTY’s garden will be completely transformed ready for the reopening on June 23, with new signage, lighting and furniture. For opening night a weekend of entertainment is planned, starting with a live DJ on Friday night, followed by karaoke and live music on Saturday from *Jo Safina*.

Mr. Robins said, ‘The pub looks fantastic, and I can’t believe the transformation. I’m really excited to get behind the bar, welcome back all the customers and support the local community. I will be starting off by collecting food for a local food bank and donations to get a defibrillator installed. Pubs are the hub of their community, and I can’t wait to start this new adventure.’

The COUNTY will also offer a full sports package with Sky Sports, BT Sports and horse racing as well as hosting a pool and darts team. Customers can expect to enjoy frequent entertainment such as quiz nights and karaoke, as well as a regular schedule of charity events to support local causes.....”

[2023]

CRESCENT

5, (93), Crescent, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Johnson [1871] – [1889]

John Hartill [1891]

William Taylor [1895] – [1901]

NOTES

William Johnson = William Johnston

1871 Census

93, Crescent – Public House

[1] *William Johnson* (37), engineer, stoker at colliery, born Wednesfield;

[2] Harriet Johnson (36), wife, born Wednesfield;

[3] Ann Johnson (12), daughter, born Wednesfield;

[4] Matilda Johnson (6), daughter, born Wednesfield;

[5] Thomas Johnson (4), son, born Willenhall;

[6] Harriet Johnson (1), daughter, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Mail 8/12/1871

“At the Stafford Assizes, yesterday, before Mr. Justice Keating, James Gutteridge (53), striker, was charged with the wilful murder of Thomas Simmons, on the 7th of October, at Willenhall. Mr. Underhill appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Smith for the prisoner, who had a very wretched appearance.

William Gough, labourer, Little Ireland, was the first witness called. On the 7th of October he was at the CRESCENT INN, Willenhall. The prisoner and the deceased were there. The prisoner, who had a quart of ale, asked the deceased to drink. Simmons at first refused to drink, but afterwards consented. After drinking, the deceased said to the prisoner, ‘You’re a rodney, lazy scoundrel.’ The prisoner then jumped up and said, ‘You are a b ____ liar.’ Simmons said if he repeated those words again he would strike him. Gutteridge did repeat the words, and the deceased leaned across the table and struck him in the face. The blow caused the blood to flow. The prisoner did not return the blow but sat down, and for about five minutes nothing more was said or done. The prisoner then rose, went across the room to the deceased, and said, ‘You have struck me twice, haven’t you, ‘up end’ you, and I’ll finish it.’ The deceased then stood up, and was taking off his coat, when the prisoner rushed at him and stabbed him in the groin. When the blow was struck the deceased cried out. ‘O Lord, O Lord, he’s stabbed me!’ and as he was falling he was caught by one of those present. Gutteridge, after striking, made for the door, but was stopped by witness. Witness did not see anything in the prisoner’s hand until *Johnson*, the landlord, took the knife (produced), which was covered with blood. Deceased died in about five minutes after the blow – at least, so far as witness could tell.

George Phillips, locksmith, Alma Street, Willenhall, stated that, on the evening in question, he was at the CRESCENT INN. He saw deceased strike the prisoner twice, but saw no blood. After the blows the prisoner sat down quietly for five minutes before he rose. He saw him fumbling about in his pocket, or his strap, before he rose and stabbed the deceased.

Cross-examined: Deceased was the first to use provoking words.

Joseph Belcher, locksmith, Darlaston, who was at the CRESCENT INN on the day in question, said that the provocation on the part of the deceased was very great. After the deceased struck the prisoner for the last time five minutes elapsed before the prisoner rose and went towards Simmons at the time the stab was given.

Cross-examined: He believed that the first blow which the deceased struck ‘dropped’ the prisoner into his seat. The blow, however, did not appear to stupefy Gutteridge, who continued to sip his beer. After the second blow was struck by the deceased, witness saw the prisoner fumbling at his belt.

Police-constable Bromley stated that the prisoner, in reply to the charge, said, ‘I fancy it is all nonsense.’

This closed the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Smith then addressed the jury for the defence. He could not, he said, trifle with their common sense by asking them to arrive at the conclusion that the prisoner was not guilty. It was abundantly clear that the deceased met with his death at the hand of the prisoner, and it was also clear that it was impossible for him to ask them to return a verdict of guilty on the ground that it was an accident. As his learned friend had opened, the issue was between manslaughter and wilful murder. He felt that he could ask them with the most confident hope to arrive at a conclusion that the prisoner was guilty of the minor charge. Reviewing the evidence, he contended that at the time prisoner rose and went towards the deceased he was filled with resentment, in consequence of the severe blows which the deceased had inflicted upon him.

The learned Judge having summed up, the Jury, after a few minutes’ deliberation, found the prisoner guilty of manslaughter.

Mr. Smith stated that he held in his hand a certificate to the effect that the prisoner had been discharged from a lunatic asylum fifteen years ago.

The learned Judge said he could not take any notice of the certificate now. If the learned counsel wished to make an application upon the certificate, it must be made to another quarter. His Lordship (addressing the prisoner) said that while he concurred in the verdict of the jury, it was clear that it was a very aggravated case of manslaughter. He had been known as a violent and dangerous man, and he should sentence him to fifteen years’ penal servitude.”

1881 Census

5, Crescent – CRESCENT INN

- [1] *William Johnston* (47), colliery engine worker and licensed victualler, born Wednesfield;
- [2] *Harriet Johnston* (43), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Matilda Johnston* (15), daughter, scholar, born Wednesfield;
- [4] *Thomas Johnston* (14), son, rim lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Harriet Johnston* (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *John Johnston* (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Express and Star 11/4/1885

“An inquest was held this (Saturday) morning, at the CRESCENT INN, Willenhall, by Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, on the body of *Robert Fenn* (59), who was employed as a brusher at Bentley Colliery. On Wednesday last, whilst the deceased was at work in the colliery, half a ton of rock fell from the roof, killing him on the spot. A man who saw the occurrence stated that the place had been examined that morning, and timber was set in the mine. He attributed the sudden fall to a slip at the back of the rock, which was not visible prior to its falling. The mine was inspected by Mr. W. H. Pickering, the assistant inspector of mines, and he stated that no mine inspection rule was broken. He agreed that the fall was due to the slip, and that it was entirely the result of accident. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 6/5/1889

“On Saturday Mr. E. B. Thorneycroft (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the CRESCENT INN, Willenhall, upon the body of *William Johnson* (56), late landlord of that tavern, and also a colliery engine-driver at Bradley. The evidence showed that the deceased was employed on the 5th ult in lifting some castings, when by the fall of a piece of timber his thigh was fractured and other injuries inflicted. He was taken to the hospital, where he remained until the 19th ult, when he went home. He had private medical attendance, and died on the 1st inst. The enquiry was adjourned until the 9th inst for further evidence.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 10/5/1889

“On Thursday afternoon the deputy coroner (Mr. E. B. Thorneycroft) held an adjourned inquest at the CRESCENT TAVERN, Willenhall, on the body of *William Johnson* (56), colliery engineer, of the CRESCENT TAVERN, Willenhall. *Harriet Johnson*, wife, said that on April 5th deceased left home to go to his work. The same day she was sent for to the Wolverhampton Hospital, and she there saw deceased. He had a black eye, bruised face, and his left thigh was broken. He remained in the Hospital a fortnight, and was better. Witness then brought him home in a cart. He died on the 1st of May. Dr. Tonks visited him, and was of opinion that he was suffering from internal injuries. *John Taylor*, engineer, lately employed at the California Works, Bradley, said that on May 5th he was at work with the deceased. They were taking down an engine there. They had got three wood legs erected 21ft high, and were winding up a piece of iron, when the pin which held them together broke, and the legs fell, one of them falling on deceased, hitting him in the right side and knocking him down. When on the ground unconscious another leg fell on his thigh, breaking it. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.:

1891 Census

5, The Crescent – CRESCENT TAVERN

- [1] *John Hartill* (33), publican, born Dudley;
- [2] *Mary A. Hartill* (19), wife, born Pelsall;
- [3] *Alice Hartill* (3 months), born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 1/6/1895

“It may be the nature of dogs to bark and bite, but the law has a short and sharp way of dealing with those who pander to the brutes’ instinct. *William Taylor*, of the CRESCENT TAVERN, Willenhall, and *Joseph Richards*, 48, Newhall Street, Willenhall, were charged with cruelty to a couple of dogs by inciting them to fight.

Inspector Cliffe said that on Wednesday, the 22nd ult., he saw defendants, each with a bull terrier dog in a slip, enter a urinal in Wolverhampton Street. Both remarked that they did ‘not mind if the dogs had a go’, and forthwith released the animals at each other. Witness had very great difficulty in parting the dogs. The men told him they did not want the fight to come off there, and gave wrong names and addresses.

They repeated that the affair was an accident, but the magistrates fined each of them 20s and costs.”

1901 Census

5, The Crescent – CRESCENT TAVERN

- [1] *William Taylor* (35), publican, born Heath Town;
- [2] *Mary J. Taylor* (34), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Lydia M. Squire* (9), visitor, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1906

“At the adjourned Brewster Sessions for the Hundred of Seisdon North, held at Wolverhampton yesterday, the Bench granted an application on behalf of *Joseph R. Lovatt* for the removal of a license from the THREE TUNS INN, Willenhall, to a proposed new house at the corner of Prosser Street and Stratton Street, New Village. The application was acceded to subject to the surrender of the following licenses: THREE TUNS INN, Willenhall; Old Heath Brewery, Heath Town; and the CRESCENT TAVERN, Willen-

hall.”

CRICKETERS ARMS

WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Noah Hayes [1869] – [1872]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/5/1869

“Whitsuntide Sports in Birmingham and District.....

Lea Brook Grounds, Wednesbury T. Walker, and J. Cooper, both of Willenhall (long delayed by the rain) were the next to show, to run 100 yards for £5 aside, and a host of bets, and their appearance created much interest. After wasting the time allowed for the start, without making a venture, they had to be started on their journey by pistol, Mr. Hockland handling the weapon. An even start was followed by a magnificent race, neck and neck all the way, the referee, Mr. *Noah Hayes*, CRICKETER’S ARMS, Willenhall, deciding in favour of Walker by a foot, to the evident dismay of Cooper’s friend, who had booked him a safe card at 6 to 4 on him.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

“Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Beerhouses *Noah Hayes*, Willenhall.”

CROSS

13, Cannon Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mary F Evans [] – 1885);

George Brindley (1885 – [1891]

Alfred E Rice [1904]

Joseph Burrows [1911] – [1913]

Arthur Leonard Whitehouse [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1891 Census

13, Cannon Street – CROSS INN

[1] *George Brindley* (46), publican, born Willenhall;

[2] *Mary A. Brindley* (37), wife, born Wednesbury;

[3] *Alice Brindley* (19), daughter, born Wednesbury;

[4] *John Brindley* (14), son, carpenter, born Willenhall;

- [5] Caroline Brindley (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
[6] George Brindley (4), son, born Willenhall:

Alfred E. Rice, beer retailer, 13, Cannon Street. [1904]

1911 Census

13, Cannon Street

- [1] *Joseph Burrows* (45), press tool maker (lock factory), born Willenhall;
[2] *Emma Burrows* (41), wife, married 23 years, born Willenhall;
[3] *Joseph Burrows* (22), son, caster's labourer, born Willenhall;
[4] *Ethel May Burrows* (21), daughter, born Willenhall;
[5] *Clara Burrows* (19), daughter, born Willenhall;
[6] *Florence Brighton* (11), niece, born Willenhall;
[7] *Harold Burrows* (17), son, printer, born Willenhall:

Joseph Burrows, beer retailer, 13, Cannon Street. [1912]

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/2/1913

"Objections were raised to the renewal of several licences, and the magistrates ordered the following licences to be scheduled for compensation CROSS INN, Cannon Street, Willenhall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1913 - Notice

"The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. Notice of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, at 10-45 o'clock am on Thursday, the 24th day of July, 1913. And Notice Is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard.
CROSS INN, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Joseph Burrows*."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/7/1913

"The Staffordshire Licensing Committee, at their meeting at Stafford yesterday, had thirty-eight cases to consider, the question being whether the licenses should be withdrawn and the houses extinguished under the compensation clauses of the Licensing Act.

The licenses of the STORES, the NEW INN, and the CROSS INN, Willenhall, were referred. The only objection was against the non-renewal of the license of the CROSS INN, and the committee decided to renew the license, the others being refused."

1939 Register

13, Cannon Street – CROSS INN

- [1] *Arthur L. Whitehouse*, date of birth 13/4/1895, public house keeper, married;
[2] *Ellen Whitehouse*, dob 6/5/1895, unpaid domestic duties, married, St. John Ambulance first aider;
[3] *Arthur W. Whitehouse*, dob 7/12/1919, engineering draughtsman, single, St. John Ambulance first aider;
[4] *Harry E. Whitehouse*, dob 7/7/1921, boot repairer, single, dispatch rider:

CROSS

Chapel Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1911]

CROSS

Russell Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Jack Picken [1917]

NOTES

Black Country Bugle

'How Jack Picken Was Bowled Into The Army'

".....Apart from being a publican, Mr. *Picken* did a bit of 'bookieing' on the side."

CROSS KEYS

32, Ashmore Lake Road, (32, Ashmore Lake), (Bloxwich Road), Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Jones [1871] – [1881]

Joseph Johnson [1890] – [1892]

William Jones [1901]

Thomas Hatton [1925]

Frank Newman [1933] – [1941]

William Ratcliffe (1942 – 1957);

Les Bishop (1957 – 1986);

Arthur Bates (1986 – [1994]

Kath Lowe [1996]

John Haynes [1999]

NOTES

Bloxwich Road [1871]

32, Ashmore Lake [1939]

Ashmore Lake [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a boxing club. The trainers included Jackie Rogers and Seth Hingley. Tournaments took place on the lawn at the rear.

1871 Census

Bloxwich Road – CROSS KEYS

[1] *Thomas Jones* (59), farm labourer, born Broseley, Shropshire;

[2] *Susannah Jones* (50), wife, born Broseley, Shropshire:

[Broseley is part of Telford.]

Thomas Jones, beer retailer, Ashmore Lake. [1872]

1881 Census

Ashmore Lake

- [1] *Thomas Jones* (66), beer seller, born Shropshire;
- [2] *Susannah Jones* (60), wife, born Shropshire;
- [3] *Ephraim Vaughan* (45), lodger, jobbing smith, born Ashmore Lake:

Birmingham Daily Post 7/10/1890

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Thomas Morgan*, miner, Mill Lane, Lane Head, was charged with refusing to quit the CROSS KEYS INN, Ashmore Lake, and also with assaulting *Joseph Johnson*, the landlord.

The complainant gave evidence to the effect that he had been assaulted by defendant whilst trying to put the latter out of the house.

A fine of 10s and costs was imposed for refusing to quit, the charge of assault being withdrawn on payment of costs.”

1891 Census

Ashmore Lake – CROSS KEYS INN

- [1] *Joseph Johnson* (34), publican, born Bilston;
- [2] *Fanny Johnson* (38), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Frederick Johnson* (13), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Mary J. Johnson* (11), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Harry Johnson* (9), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Charlotte Johnson* (7), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Joseph Johnson* (6), son, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Fredy Johnson* (4), son, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 17/1/1893

“Re *Joseph Johnson*, CROSS KEYS INN, Ashmore Lake, Short Heath.

A meeting of the creditors of this bankrupt was convened to be held at the office of the Official Receiver, Wolverhampton, yesterday. The liabilities were set down at £207 0s 11d, and the assets £14 15s 11d.

The bankrupt commenced business at the Ashmore Lake Farm in 1881, and afterwards took to the CROSS KEYS INN, Short Heath, but since June last a number of executions have been levied, and when the petition was filed the bailiffs were in possession. The debtor attributed the cause of his insolvency to loss of horses and stock, excessive expenditure, and want of capital. The debtor’s affairs were left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

In the afternoon the debtor was examined before Mr. Registrar Sanders, at the Wolverhampton County Court, and allowed to pass.”

1901 Census

Ashmore Lake – CROSS KEYS INN

- [1] *William Jones* (65), innkeeper, born Bilston;
- [2] *Mary A. Jones* (63), wife, born Wem, Shropshire;
- [3] *Annie Jones* (22), granddaughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Thomas Willetts* (47), boarder, blacksmith, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/5/1925 - Notice

“Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Thursday, the 18th day of June, 1925, at 11 o’clock am.

And Notice is Hereby also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list.....

CROSS KEYS, Ashmore Lake, Short Heath, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Thomas Hatton*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/6/1925

“The Principal Meeting of the County Compensation Authority, under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Thursday.....

In support of the application for renewal of the licence of the CROSS KEYS ante ’69 beerhouse, Ashmore Lake, Short Heath, which was granted by the committee, it was stated that a housing scheme had been started in close proximity. It was proposed to erect 480 houses on a 48 acre site, and the erection of six had begun. Mr. Tucker said the owners, Messrs. Mills, were prepared to rebuild the CROSS KEYS premises and spend a substantial sum of money. Evidence was given that there were 300 applicants for houses on the books of Willenhall Urban District Council, and 100 at Short Heath.”

1939 Register

32, Ashmore Lake – Beerhouse

- [1] *Frank Newman*, date of birth 23/2/1881, licensee, married;
- [2] *Agnes Newman*, dob 23/11/1881, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *William C. Newman*, dob 14/1/1905, foundry labourer:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, North Division. [1946]

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

It reopened after a refurbishment in 2003.

[2016]

CROWN

14, Cheapside, (19, Cross Street, (Church Street)) / Walsall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Richard Butler [1833] – [1850]
Jesse Wakelam [1851] – **1854**);
Richard Butler (**1854** – [1873]
James Langsdale [1881]
Theresa McDonnell (**1887** – []
Daniel Banks [1891] – [1892]
Henry Jenkins [1901] – [1904]
Harry Worrall [1908]
Frederick William Minors [1908] – [1911]
Arthur Pointon [1912]
Stephen Horton [1916]
John Jeffs [1921]
James Clift [1932]
Thomas Price [1940]
Tracey Bates [2007]

NOTES

Walsall Street [1845], [1849], [1861], [1891], [1904]
Church Street [1850], [1851]
Cross Street [1862]
19, Cross Street [1881], [1901], [1911]
Cheapside [1912]
14, Cheapside [1921], [1932], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Richard Butler, key maker and retail brewer, Church Street. [1833]

1841 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Richard Butler* (49), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Richard Butler* (25), key maker, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Abrham Butler* (17), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Joseph Butler* (16), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Thos Butler* (8), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Allice Butler* (45), born Staffordshire;
- [7] *Frances Butler* (14), born Staffordshire;
- [8] *Sarah Butler* (7), born Staffordshire;
- [9] *Eliza Butler* (4), born Staffordshire;
- [10] *Harriott Butler* (1), born Staffordshire;

Richard Butler was described as a key and lock maker. [1845], [1849], [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/5/1845

“*Richard Butler*, of the CROWN, Willenhall, was fined 5s and costs for a similar offence.”

[Permitting drinking in his house during the time of divine service.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/5/1850

“On Friday last at Wolverhampton Police Court, before J. Tarratt and J. Walker, Esq., Isaac Harper alias Briggs, George Rutter, Edward Halden, and Joseph Measham, were charged with stealing half a hundred weight of rhubarb from the garden of Mr. *Richard Butler*, of the CROWN INN, Willenhall. It appeared that considerable damage had been done to the garden, but the only evidence against the defendants was that of John Richards, a boy, one of the party, who was caught in the act of getting over the gate. The other depredators succeeded in making their escape, and there being no evidence to corroborate the statement of Richards the defendants were discharged, but were cautioned to be careful, or they would get into gaol. The Willenhall police, on hearing of the robbery, proceeded to the houses where the defendants lived, but found them in bed, and they denied the charge. The police told the magistrates that the defendants were too old to make any statements, as they had been away in gaol several times.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/10/1854

“At the County Petty Sessions on Monday last the following victuallers’ licenses were transferred.....

That of the CROWN INN, Willenhall, from *Jesse Wakelam* to *Richard Butler*.”

1861 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Richard Butler* (45), liquor merchant, born Willenhall;
- [2] Hannah Butler (46), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Ann Butler (16), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Thomas Butler (14), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] William Butler (9), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] Alice Butler (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] Joseph Butler (2), son, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1862

“County licensing meeting held on Thursday last There were no licenses suspended, but the following publicans were reprimanded for misconduct in the management of their houses during the last twelve months *Richard Butler*, the CROWN INN, Willenhall As promises of amendment were made for the future, the licenses were again renewed.”

Richard Butler was also a key maker. [1868], [1870]

He was a partner in Richard and Benjamin Butler, lock and key manufacturers. [1873]

1871 Census

Walsall Street / Cross Street

- [1] *Richard Butler* (55), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Hannah Butler (55), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] William Butler (18), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Alice Butler (14), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Joseph Butler (11), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Harriett Butler (40), assistant, born Willenhall:

1881 Census

19, Cross Street

- [1] *James Langsdale* (44), widower, publican, born Wollaton, Nottinghamshire;
- [2] Drusilla Langsdale (20), niece, housekeeper, born Cinder Hill, Nottinghamshire;
- [3] Susannah Baker (16), general servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

Walsall Street – CROWN INN

- [1] *Daniel Banks* (31), locksmith and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Clara Banks (27), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Albert Banks (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Charles Banks (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Charles Green (79), father in law, widower, locksmith, born Windsor;
- [6] Emma Mason (16), general servant, born Willenhall:

Daniel Banks – see also [TRUE BRITON](#) and [NAVIGATION](#).

1901 Census

19, Cross Street – CROWN INN

- [1] *Henry Jenkins* (32), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Jenkins* (31), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ethel M. Jenkins* (8), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Wilfred H. Jenkins* (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Miriam D. Jenkins* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Gertrude Knowles* (16), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Frederick W. Minors, Cross Street [1908]

1911 Census

19, Cross Street

- [1] *Frederick William Minors* (46), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Harriett Minors* (46), wife, assisting in business, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Frederick William Minors* (21), son, butcher, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Frank Victor Minors* (10), son, school, born Willenhall:

Frederick William Minors – see also ALBION.

Express & Star 8/9/2016

“The star of a TV documentary looking at legal highs in Wolverhampton has appeared in court accused of assaulting three people during a pub fight. Liam Harris was the central figure in BBC Three’s controversial documentary *Wolverhampton: Getting Off Mamba*, which aired earlier this year. Yesterday, the 28 year old appeared before Walsall magistrates and denied assaulting three people, who are relatives, at the CROWN pub, Cheapside, Willenhall, on May 29. He will next appear at Dudley Magistrates Court on November 10. Harris, of Willenhall Road, Willenhall, was granted unconditional bail.”

[2016]

CROWN

Lichfield Road, (Bloxwich Road), New Invention, Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

W. Whitehouse [1914]

LICENSEES

James Cooper [1834]
Charles Cooper [1835]
Mrs. Sarah Horton [1841] – [1845]
Matthew Tarbuck [1847] – 1852;
Mrs. Mary Tarbuck (1852 – [1865]
Henry Tarbuck [1868] – [1870]
Samuel Tarbuck [1872] – [1892]
Daniel Brookes [1901] – [1908]
Mrs. Louisa Brookes [1912] – [1916]
Percy James Squire [1921]
Samuel Birch [1927] – [1932]
Lionel Brindley Partridge [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

It was listed under Wednesfield. [1851]

OLD CROWN [1852], [1913], [1914], [1927]

Sarah Horton = Sarah Hooton

1841 Census

New Invention

- [1] *Sarah Horton* (60), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *John Horton* (30), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Ellen Baker* (5), born Staffordshire:

1851 Census

New Invention

- [1] *Matthew Tarbuck* (55), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Tarbuck* (46), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Samuel Tarbuck* (28), son, mine sinker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Abraham Tarbuck* (25), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Sarah Tarbuck* (18), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Mathew Tarbuck* (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Ann Tarbuck* (9), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Isaac Tarbuck* (37), brother in law, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Edwin Mason* (21), lodger, coal miner, born Bushbury:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/6/1852

“County Police Court, Monday June 7 The following transfers of victuallers’ licenses took place in the course of the sitting.....

the late *Matthew Tarbuck*, of the OLD CROWN, Wednesfield, to his widow.....”

Walsall Free Press 15/11/1856

“On Thursday last, at the public office, *Mary Tarbuck*, landlady of the NEW INVENTION INN, Wednesfield, appeared before the presiding magistrates, charged with allowing drunkenness and disorderly conduct in her house on the night of the 4th instant. Mr. Beaton (from the office of S. Wilkinson, Esq) was retained for the defence.

Police Constable Hicks deposed, that a woman named Cooper went to his house on the night in question, and said; if he did not go to the public house above named, there was no doubt murder would be committed. He went immediately to the place, when he found the door locked, but discovered some persons fighting within. He asked for admittance, stating that he was a policeman. When admitted he found the house in considerable disorder. Some of the party seemed to have been fighting. Most of them appeared to be drunk; and one had blood on his face. Defendant’s son asked the officer what his business was there, and ordered him to leave the house. Mr. Beaton cross-examined the witness, but his evidence was unshaken. Mr. Beaton, in addressing the Bench, said, that in a case of so much importance to his client, he conceived the evidence was of a meagre description. Several witnesses were called, who denied altogether that there had been any fighting on the night in question. The evidence, however, was very conflictive.

The defendant was fined £1 16s, including expenses. Three men named Tarbuck, Sands, and Jackson, were charged with resisting the officers in the execution of their duties. After a careful consideration of the case, the magistrates fined Tarbuck 20s, Sands 22s, and ordered Jackson to find a surety in £10, and be bound himself in £20, to keep the peace for 12 months.”

Mary Tarbuck = Mary Tarrick

1861 Census

New Invention – CROWN

- [1] *Mary Tarbuck* (50), widow, victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Thomas Tarbuck* (24), son, carpenter, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ann Tarbuck* (20), daughter, milliner, born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Tarbuck* (8), grandson, scholar, born Wednesfield;
- [5] *William Richards* (22), boarder, coal miner, born Wales;
- [6] *Isaac Turner* (72), lodger, widower, locksmith, born Willenhall:

Walsall Free Press 13/7/1861 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Property at the New Invention.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Henry Farrington, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Bloxwich, on Monday, the 5th day of August, 1861, at six o’clock in evening, subject to conditions then to be read.

All that Old Licensed Public House and Premises known by the sign of the CROWN, with the Land thereto belonging situate at the New Invention, and now in the occupation of *Mary Tarbuck*.

And also all those six Messuages or Tenements adjoining, or rear thereto, with the Gardens thereto belonging, in the respective occupations of Tarbuck, Appleby, Hyde, and others, the whole producing an annual rental of £60, or thereabouts.

The above property which is eligibly situated, comprises, with the Field and Garden at the back, upwards of two acres, and is supposed to contain valuable Mines of Coal and Ironstone. If desired, part of the Purchase Money may remain upon Mortgage.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Thurstans, Solicitor, Wolverhampton, or to the Auctioneer, Walsall.”

1871 Census

31, Blockwich Road

[1] *Mary Tarbuck* (67), widow, late publican, born Willenhall;

[2] Sarah Ann Hicks (5), visitor, born Walsall:

Samuel Tarbuck was the son of *Matthew* and *Mary*.

1881 Census

New Invention – CROWN INN

[1] *Samuel Tarbuck* (59), publican, born Bloxwich;

[2] Lydia Tarbuck (49), wife, born Short Heath;

[3] Frederick Tarbuck (27), son, key maker, born New Invention;

[4] Mary Ann Downes (24), daughter, born New Invention;

[5] Silas Downes (29), son in law, coal miner, born Bloxwich;

[6] Druscilla Downes (1), granddaughter, born New Invention;

[7] William Lyceth (12), nephew, scholar, born Willenhall;

[8] Thomas Butler (30), servant, carter, born Dreaton, Warwickshire;

[9] Enoch Smith (21), boarder, key maker, born New Invention:

1891 Census

Bloxwich Road, New Invention – CROWN INN

[1] *Samuel Tarbuck* (68), widower, licensed victualler, born Wednesfield;

[2] W. Samuel Downen (9), grandson, born Wednesfield;

[3] Drusilla Downen (11), granddaughter, born Wednesfield;

[4] Charlotte Asbury (18), domestic servant, born Essington;

[5] Enoch Smith (58), boarder, born Wednesfield:

1901 Census

Bloxwich Road, Short Heath – CROWN INN

[1] *Daniel Brookes* (44), (retired miner) publican, born Essington;

[2] Louisa Brookes (49), wife, born New Invention;

[3] Ibry W. Brooks (16), son, lockmaker, born New Invention;

[4] Mary L. Brooks (12), daughter, born Bolton on Dearne, Yorkshire;

[5] Emily Dando (18), servant, born Hednesford:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/7/1913

“George Griffiths, of Lichfield Road, New Invention, was charged with stealing pigeons, value 12s, belonging to Henry Fletcher, Lichfield Road, New Invention, Short Heath, and six pigeons, value £5, belonging to Ibry Brookes of the OLD CROWN INN, Lichfield Road, New Invention. The prisoner, who had a previous record, was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/2/1914

“The annual Licensing Sessions were held on Thursday.....

The Court recommended that notices be served to the effect that the OLD CROWN INN, New Invention, and the DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, Short Heath, be scheduled for consideration for closing.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/3/1914

“At the adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton county division on Monday.....

The license of the OLD CROWN INN, New Invention was opposed on the ground of redundancy. It had been licensed over 100 years. It was stated to be well conducted and doing a good trade. Mr. W. Whitehouse, the owner, stated that he gave £1,000 for the house, and it would be a serious thing for him if the license were taken away. The license was renewed.....

The magistrates said there were too many public-house in that locality.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/7/1914

“An application was made for the approval of plans to improve the premises of the CROWN INN, New Invention. It was stated that the house had existed from the time of William the Conqueror, and the license had been traced back over 100 years. There was no opposition and the plans were approved.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/8/1927

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers’ Society was held at the house of Mr. *Samuel Birch*, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention, on the 11th inst.....”

1939 Register

Lichfield Road – OLD CROWN INN (2 of 3)

[1] *Lionel B. Partridge*, date of birth 23/9/1895, publican, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Clara Partridge, dob 12/3/1896, unpaid domestic duties, married;

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

CROWN

Somerford Works, Chapel Street, Summerford Bridge, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Enoch Williams [1861] – [1866]

NOTES

1861 Census

Somerford Works, Chapel Street

- [1] *Enoch Williams* (30), publican and blacksmith, born Ironbridge;
- [2] Eliza Williams (26), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Emile S. Williams (7), daughter, scholar, born Portobello;
- [4] Jabez Williams (2), son, born Portobello;
- [5] Eliza Short (18), house servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Samuel Turner (26), boarder, brewer, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/7/1866

“At the Police Court, on Monday, *Enoch Williams*, keeper of the CROWN beerhouse, Summerford Bridge, was charged with selling ale at unlawful hours. Police-constable Dutton stated that on Sunday morning week he visited the defendant’s premises, and found a man in a blacksmith’s shop, which adjoins the beerhouse, with a quart of ale in front of him, which had been supplied by the defendant’s servant. Defendant admitted the offence, and was fined 5s and costs.”

CROWN AND ANCHOR

Lane Head, (Pool Hayes), Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edward Edwards [1860]
T Fellows [1865]
William Fellows [] – 1879);
James Walker (1879 – [1881]
George Edwards [1888]
George Edmunds [] – **1890)**

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

London Gazette 23/4/1861

“WHEREAS a Petition of *Edward Edwards*, now and for fifteen months last past residing at Lane Head, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Railway Clerk, previously in lodgings at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Lane Head, Willenhall aforesaid, Railway Clerk, previously of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Lane Head, Willenhall aforesaid, Railway Clerk and Brewer and Retailer of

Beer and Licensed to sell Tobacco, previously in lodgings at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Lane Head, Willenhall aforesaid, Railway Clerk, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at the Court-house, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Edward Edwards*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Edward Edwards* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 10th day of May next, at nine of the clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Edward Edwards*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, in Queen-street, Wolverhampton aforesaid, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent."

London Gazette 17/5/1861

"In the Matter of the Petition of *Edward Edwards*, now and for fifteen months last past residing at Lane Head, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Railway Clerk, previously in lodgings at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Lane Head, Willenhall aforesaid, Railway Clerk, previously of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Lane Head, Willenhall aforesaid, Railway Clerk and Brewer and Retailer of Beer, and licensed to sell Tobacco, previously in lodgings at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Lane Head, Willenhall aforesaid, Railway Clerk, an Insolvent Debtor.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, at Wolverhampton, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 14th day of June next, at nine o'clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary."

Walsall Free Press 5/8/1865 - Advert

"Go And See Him!

The Largest Young Pig Living!

At Mr. *T. Fellows's*, the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, Lane Head, near Willenhall."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/6/1866

"William Dodd, a labouring man, was charged at the Police Court, on Monday, with having assaulted John Newman, a boatman, and stolen from him the sum of £7 10s. It appeared that on the night of Tuesday, the 12th inst., the prosecutor was at the CROWN AND ANCHOR public house, Pool Hayes, and there saw the prisoner and two other men in the kitchen. A conversation took place about the sale of a dog, and the prosecutor in a boastful spirit, said, 'I'm not short of a pound or two,' at the same time foolishly holding up to the gaze of all present his purse, which contained £7 10s in gold and silver. He had some words with the prisoner after that, and then left the house to go to his boat. When he had got a short distance on the towing path, he found he was being followed by the prisoner and the two other men. On coming up with him, one of the men, named Cureton said, 'Now then, you b——,' and at the same time struck him a violent blow on the mouth, which knocked him over the hedge. The prisoner then knelt upon his neck, and thrusting his hand into prosecutor's trouser pocket, took out his purse and then ran away. The two other men had also disappeared. The prisoner was afterwards apprehended by Police-constable Pepper.

The Bench decided to remand the prisoner to afford the police time to apprehend his confederates."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/8/1866

"Josiah Dodd was indicted for robbery and assault at Willenhall. Mr. Harrington prosecuted; Mr. Griffiths defended.

John Newman stated he was a boatman, living at Malsmore, Gloucestershire, but on the 11th June last had his boat at a place called Pool Hayes. On the evening of that day he was proceeding from West Bromwich to his boat, along the towing path of the canal, the prisoner and two other men, whom he had seen in a public house, following him. He was knocked down, and the prisoner knelt on his neck, and pulled his purse from his pocket, which contained about £5. As soon as he had got prosecutor's purse, he ran away.

John Bullock, miner, living at Willenhall, deposed to hearing cries of murder, and to finding prosecutor on the ground, who complained of being robbed by two men.

The Counsel for the prisoner called Mary Clebberly, daughter of the landlady of the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, who said she turned the prosecutor out of the house for being drunk and quarrelsome, on the 12th of June. Her mother heard cries of 'Murder' that night, and told her of it, but that time the prisoner was in the house, nor had he been out previously that evening.

Other witnesses were called to substantiate the alibi, and the Jury acquitted the prisoner."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1866

"On Monday, a man named John Arrott alias Cureton, was brought before the Magistrates charged with being concerned – with a man named Dodd (who was convicted of the offence at the last Assizes) and a third man, not yet apprehended – in an assault on a boatman named John Newman, and stealing from him the sum of £7. The evidence showed that on the night of Tuesday, the 12th of June last, the prosecutor was at the CROWN AND ANCHOR public house, Pool Hayes, and there saw the prisoner and two other men, one of whom was Dodd, in the kitchen. A conversation took place about betting, and the prosecutor, in a boastful spirit, said, 'I'm not short of a pound or two,' at the same time holding up to the gaze of all present his purse, which contained £7 10s in gold and silver. He had some words after that then left the house to go to his boat. When he had got a short distance on the towing path, he found he was being followed by the prisoner and two other men. On coming up with him, the prisoner Cureton said, 'Now then you ——,' and at the same time struck him a violent blow on the mouth, which knocked him over the hedge. The man Dodd then knelt upon his neck, and thrusting his hand into prosecutor's trousers pocket, took out his purse and then ran away. The prisoner had been absent from the neighbourhood since the robbery until the previous Monday, when he was apprehended by

Police-constable Pepper, at Lane Head.
He was committed for trial at the Sessions.”

1881 Census

Maddoxs Building

- [1] *James Walker* (48), farmer of 40 acres and beer seller, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Eliza Walker* (48), wife, born Essex;
- [3] *Kate Walker* (16), daughter, dressmaker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Howard Walker* (15), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Benjamin Walker* (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Louisa Walker* (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *James Walker* (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

London Gazette 1/10/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *James Walker*, of Pool Hayes, Short Heath, near Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, Farmer, and late of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Lane Head, near Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, Beerhouse Keeper and Farmer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the office of *Abraham Baker*, Solicitor, Bridge-street, Walsall, on the 28th day of October, 1881, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

Dated this 11th day of October, 1881.

A. Baker, Bridge-street, Walsall, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/10/1888

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, *George Edwards*, landlord of the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN beerhouse, Lane Head, was charged with selling ale during prohibited hours.

Police-constable Dodge deposed that that about half-past twelve on the night of the 29th ult., he saw a man, named *William Hurley*, go to the back door of the house and enter. He observed a light carried into the bar, and noticed defendant draw some beer in a can. Defendant's wife then came out of the house, and, after looking round, said, ‘It's all right’, upon which *Hurdley* came out, but he was seized by witness.

Defendant, who had been twice previously cautioned by the police for this class of offence, was fined £2 and costs.

Hurdley was then fined 15s 6d, including costs, for being on the premises during prohibited hours.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1890

“The licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton division of the Hundred of Seisdon North was held yesterday.....

The license of *George Edmunds*, of the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, Lane Head, was also opposed by the police on the ground that defendant had been convicted of having his house open during prohibited hours, and also of permitting gaming license refused.”

CROWN AND SCEPTRE

221, Lichfield Road, New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers

LICENSEES

Mrs. Wendy Sherwin (1994 – [])

NOTES

Sandwell Evening Mail 22/9/1994

“Regulars at a Black Country pub will soon be serving up some of their own favourite treats. They will join landlady *Wendy Sherwin* in deciding what attractions should be on offer at the CROWN AND SCEPTRE. Mrs. *Sherwin* has set up a customers' forum to plan a programme of leisure activities at the pub in Lichfield Road, Willenhall. ‘It is their pub and they know how they want to spend their time here,’ said Mrs. *Sherwin*, who recently took over as licensee. ‘It is only right that I should consider their views.

We'll look at all the suggestions and adopt those which are most suitable.' One of Mrs. *Sherwin's* own ideas has already raised a cheer at the Mitchells and Butlers' pub. She has cut the price of lunchtime meals for pensioners."

Birmingham Mail 6/7/1995 - Advert

"Psychic Night. Thursday 6th July.
CROWN AND SCEPTRE, New Invention, 7.30 till 11.00."

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

"Free Pint of Carling.
With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We've a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....
Where to get your Free pint.....
CROWN AND SCEPTRE, 221 Lichfield Road, Willenhall.'

It became a restaurant.

DOG AND PARTRIDGE

1, Temple Bar / 1, Little London, (Stafford Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Jones [1859] – [1879]
Francis Wakelam [1877] – [1881]
Geoffrey Wakelam [1891] – [1916]
John Underwood [1921] – [1932]
Edward Hall [1939] – [1940]
G S Jones [1976]
Alfred Benjamin Ryder [1980s]

NOTES

Stafford Street [1868]
1, Little London [1871]
Little London [1879]
Temple Bar [1891], [1904]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1862

"situate at the junction of the Willenhall, Wednesfield and Bloxwich roads"

DOG AND PARTRIDGE HOTEL [1911]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

"The annual meeting for the renewal of Victuallers' licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for licenses, for the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North was held on Thursday last.....
Mr. Thurstans then made an application on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Jones*, the occupier of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, situate on the road between Willenhall and Little London, for a license for the above house. A petition, numerously signed, was presented in favour of the applicant. There was another application for a license in the same locality, the applicant being Mr. Badger, of the CROWN public-house. Mr. Hayes supported the application. Both applications were refused."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1860

"The annual licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton Division of Seisdon North was held on Thursday last.....
Mr. James Walker applied to the Bench to grant a license to the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, at Little London, kept by Mr. *Jones*. It was situated, he remarked, near to the collieries of Messrs. Sparrow, Fletcher and Solly, and Rose and Hill, and as accidents frequently occurred therein it was desirable that the means should exist of obtaining spirits for injured persons within an easy distance from the works. In this respect the DOG AND PARTRIDGE would prove a great convenience. The certificate was signed

by Mr. W. H. Sparrow, Messrs. Fletcher and Solly, Messrs. Rose and Hill, Mr. T. Barker, Messrs. Deakin and Dodd, &c. Mr. Underhill opposed the application on behalf of the landlord of the HOPE AND ANCHOR, which, he said, like the WAGGON AND HORSES was only about 300 yards distant from the applicant's premises. He contended that there was no necessity for another license being granted to the neighbourhood. Application refused."

Thomas Jones, beer retailer, Little London. [1861]

1861 Census

Stafford Street – DOG AND PARTRIDGE

[1] *Thomas Jones* (43), stone miner, born Broseley, Shropshire;

[2] Eliza Jones (40), wife, born Bilston;

[3] Mary Cooper (19), house servant, born Wednesfield:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

"There were eight applications for new licenses. Mr. Hayes said he had to renew an application he made last year for a license to the OLD CROWN, situated on the main road, leading from Willenhall to Little London, and from Wednesfield to Wolverhampton. Thirty years ago there was a victualling license attached to the house but it been allowed to lapse.

Mr. Hill: What difference is there between the present application and that of last year?

Mr. Hayes said, Willenhall was increasing in extent and population and there were less applications from it for licenses this year than at the last meeting. The application was unopposed, and he thought the magistrates, considering that the house had been once licensed, that it possessed every necessary convenience, and that it was surrounded with buildings, would be inclined to entertain it.

Mr. Thurstans applied for a license to the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, situated in the same locality, and kept by Mr. *Thomas Jones*. As it could hardly be expected that the magistrates would grant two licenses in the neighbourhood, his application constituted an opposition to that of Mr. Hayes, and he contended that Mr. *Jones's* house was more eligibly situated for a license than that of Mr. Badger, inasmuch as it stood nearer to Messrs. Fletcher and Solly's colliery, and further from a public house than that of Mr. Hayes's client, and was on the main road,

Mr. H. Underhill opposed the latter application, observing that a similar one was made last year and refused, and since no alterations had taken place in the circumstances of the case. There were already two licensed houses within a short distance of Badger's and *Jones's* houses.

The Bench refused both applications, on the ground that the state of circumstances had not altered since last year....."

Thomas Jones, retailer of beer, Little London. [1862]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

"At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division, Seisdon North, held yesterday.....

Mr. *Thomas Jones* applied for a new license to the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Stafford Street, Willenhall. The Magistrates refused the same. In support of the application for Mr. *Jones* of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Mr. H. Underhill appeared; Mr. Langman opposed on behalf of Ann Marston, of the HOPE AND ANCHOR. Mr. Langman reminded the Bench that the applicant had sought a license at the hands of that Court many times before, but had not been successful in his efforts to do so. Since then he had done nothing in the way of enlarging his premises, with the view to making them deserving of a new license, so that what the objections were formerly in the way of granting his application existed also now. His house was not more than three hundred yards distance from the HOPE AND ANCHOR; besides which, on the other side there was another public house. On the last occasion but one that he appeared in that Court the Magistrates told him that his house was not sufficiently commodious, and though since he had taken in a small dwelling house with the view of increasing his room, he had let it off again, so that with regard to room he was in precisely the same position as before."

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1864

"The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans for the Wolverhampton Division of Seisdon North, was held yesterday, at the County Police Court, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.....

Mr. Underhill then said that he had to apply on behalf of *Thomas Jones* for a license to the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Little London; but he had not then before him all the particulars of the case, and he would therefore defer it until the adjourned day.....

The Magistrates reserved their decision on all these applications until the adjourned licensing day."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1864

"The adjourned licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton Division of Seisdon North was held on Monday last.....

Mr. Underhill applied for a new license to the DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, situate on the road leading from Willenhall to Little London, on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Jones*, the occupant. He said the Bench gave him permission at the Annual Licensing Meeting to make the application today, in consequence of his not being fully instructed at that time. His chief grounds of application were, the applicant's good character and experience, the suitability of the house and premises, and the wants of the locality, there being no licensed house within 263 yards in one direction and 297 in another.

Mr. Thurstans opposed the application on behalf of Mrs. Marston, of the HOPE AND ANCHOR, and said the occupant of the other licensed house in the neighbourhood was in attendance to oppose personally. He contended that no more public house accommodation was required. The same application had been made in previous years and refused, and there were no new grounds

to warrant a different decision now.
The Magistrates granted the license.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/8/1868 - Deaths

“On the 6th instant, after a severe illness, Eliza Cooper *Jones*, wife of Mr. *Thomas Jones*, DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, Little London, Willenhall, aged 48 years.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.

Thomas Jones, DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Willenhall, selling during prohibited hours, 10s and costs.”

1871 Census

1, Little London

[1] *Thomas Jones* (51), widower, publican, born Brosley [**Broseley**], Shropshire;

[2] Mary Price (63), house keeper, born Bilston;

[3] Ann Richards (23), general servant, born Willenhall:

Worcester Journal 15/9/1877

“A young man named *Jeffry Wakelam*, who manages his father’s public house, the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, at Little London, near Wolverhampton, shot his intimate friend, Charles Lloyd, with a revolver on Sunday. Six young men who had formed a shooting club, each possessing a revolver, had returned to the inn. Frolicking ensued, and Lloyd went outside, and, pressing his face against the window pane, called out ‘Fire.’ *Wakelam*, believing his pistol was empty, pulled the trigger, and Lloyd fell dead. A bullet had passed through the eye into the brain.”

[The inquest returned a verdict of Accidental Death.]

Midland Counties Evening Express 8/1/1878

“Ellen Toole and Roger Carlow, of Portobello, were charged under adjourned summonses with having been disorderly, and refusing to quit, the licensed premises of *Francis Wakelam*, DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Little London. On the 18th of December the defendants went into Mr. *Wakelam*’s house, and began to sing filthy songs. They refused to desist or to leave the premises, and consequently had to be ejected.

Each was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days imprisonment.”

1881 Census

Temple Bar – DOG AND PARTRIDGE

[1] *Francis Wakelam* (61), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] Maria Wakelam (46), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Sarah Wakelam (17), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] Harry Wakelam (15), son, clerk in railway offices, born Willenhall;

[5] Horace Wakelam (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] *Geoffrey Wakelam* (20), son, born Willenhall:

Francis Wakelam – see also BELL.

1891 Census

Temple Bar

[1] *Geoffrey Wakelam* (30), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

Temple Bar, Little London

[1] *Geoffrey Wakelam* (39), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] Minnie May Wakelam (35), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] Eliza Ann Cooper (15), general servant, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

1, Temple Bar

[1] *Geoffrey Wakelam* (50), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] Minnie Wakelam (45), wife, married 14 years, assisting in the business, born Wolverhampton;

[3] Gertrude Gough (24), general servant, born Great Bridge:

1939 Register

Temple Bar – DOG AND PARTRIDGE (2 of 3)

[1] *Edward Hall*, date of birth 24/4/1901, public house manager, married;
[2] *Winifred Hall*, dob 27/1/1908, unpaid domestic duties, married;

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

[1998]

Closed [2006]

DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE

82, Coltham Road, (Church Street), (39, Short Heath), (Front Lane), Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Black Country Traditional Inns [2009]

LICENSEES

George Henworth [1868] – [1879]
Mrs. Mary Ann Henworth [1881]
William Henworth (1882 – [1904]
Ernest Harris [1908]
George Henworth [1939] – [1940]
Ronald William ‘Ron’ Hines [2002] – [2007]
Christopher Norman Plumbly [2009] – [2013]

NOTES

39, Short Heath [1871]
Church Street [1882]
Front Lane [1901]
82, Coltham Road [1939], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

George Henworth was born in 1830.

George Henworth, beer retailer, Short Heath. [1868], [1872]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/5/1870

“Phoebe Ratcliffe, Lane Head, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit a beerhouse. *George Henworth*, beerhouse keeper, Short Heath, stated that on the 10th inst. defendant went in drunk, and when his wife requested her to quit, she assaulted her. A policemen was called in, and she was turned out. Defendant was also charged with assaulting the complainant’s wife. Defendant was fined 5s for being drunk, and 2s 6d and costs for the assault.”

1871 Census

39, Short Heath

[1] *George Henworth* (41), coal miner and beer retailer, born Bilston;
[2] *Mary Ann Henworth* (41), wife, born Wolverhampton;
[3] *William Henworth* (21), son, born Willenhall;
[4] *Thomas Henworth* (19), son, born Lane Head;
[5] *George Henworth* (11), son, scholar, born Lane Head;
[6] *Joseph Henworth* (8), son, scholar, born Lane Head;
[7] *Samuel Henworth* (6), son, scholar, born Lane Head;
[8] *Althea Henworth* (4), daughter, born Lane Head;
[9] *Francis Henworth* (6 weeks), son, born Short Heath;

[10] Hannah Keate (17), general servant, born Short Heath;
[11] William Caddick (28), brewer, born Walsall:

George Henworth died in 1879.

County Express 15/11/1879

“A shocking accident happened on Wednesday, at the Short Heath Colliery, Short Heath, the property of the Pelsall Coal and Iron Company. The pit is about 100 yards deep, and on Monday the workmen began to drive another heading in the fire-clay coal seam. Four men worked at a time in eight-hour shifts. In the short distance of heading driven, Edward Grant (doggy), Benjamin Deakin, *George Henworth*, and William Wood were at a quarter past one in the afternoon engaged, when Joseph Frost, the butty, and Mr. John Slack, the chief engineer of the company’s collieries went down to see how the work was progressing. They had not been down more than five minutes when an explosion happened. At the moment a bowk of slack had just reached the top of the shaft, and it was being received by Edward Greenwood, the banksman. The force of the gas and the diverted air was so great that Greenwood was hurled back into his hovel. Recovering himself and getting to the pit’s mouth again, he called down to know what had happened. In response a voice said: ‘Fetch help!’ For this the banksman ran across to another of the company’s pits, 200 yards off. At about the same time Benjamin Bickley and another, who were part of the next shift, came to the pit to go down; and although the foul vapours were ascending in volumes which filled the shaft, they essayed to go down. They had not however descended more than 40 yards, when they called to be drawn up again. It was impossible for them to go further and survive. The usual expedient of throwing water down the shaft was resorted to, and Bickley and his companion again descended. The heading was so short, having been in hand only two and a half days, that there was no difficulty, the foul vapours having been cleared away, in reaching the sufferers. They were all dead. Death had occurred not from the fire but from the inhalation of carbonic acid gas or afterdamp. The works were not damaged. Mr. Chavasse, the company’s clerk, and Mr. Thomas Fenn, a neighbouring colliery owner, superintended the bringing of the deceased to the surface, and the sending of them to their homes, and others to the WOOL PACK INN; and Mr. Michael Hall, of Pelsall, the manager of the company’s collieries, and Edward Fletcher, doggy from a neighbouring pit, were amongst those who, subsequently to the finding of the bodies, descended the pit. Wood alone, of all the deceased, was unmarried, and he had gone to work at this pit for the first time on Wednesday morning. Excepting Slack, who is of Pelsall, and Grant, who is of Short Heath, the deceased lived at Lane Head. All the five married deceased leave children – Frost two, Grant six, Deakin six, *Henworth* (who, in addition to being a miner, was likewise the landlord of the DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE public house, near the colliery) five. The pit is situated over a mile from the Short Heath Station of the Wolverhampton and Walsall Railway, and about 200 yards from the Short Heath church. The services which were being held on Wednesday night in the church and in the Nonconformist chapels in the vicinity of the colliery were especially appropriate, where so sudden a calamity had fallen upon and saddened every home throughout a wide district. The immediate cause of the explosion will form the subject of an investigation before the coroner. The accident is the more remarkable since the end of the working must have been very near to the shaft. There should have been no difficulty in ventilating so short a distance.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/11/1879

“The three men (Corfield, *Henworth*, Deakin, and Wood) who were killed by the explosion of firedamp at the Pelsall Coal and Iron Company’s pit, on Wednesday last, were interred in Short Heath churchyard on Sunday. The deceased were buried side by side, but in separate graves. Between three and four thousand persons witnessed the burial ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. A. Wood. A collection was made at the gates of the churchyard, and 2,000 copper coins, with a little silver, were given. There was also a collection at St. Giles’s, Willenhall, where, in response to the appeal of the vicar, who had issued hand bills, £21 was realised. The bills stated that the collection was in aid of the twenty-one destitute children. The other two deceased were buried, Slack at Pelsall on Friday, and Frost yesterday at Bloxwich. All the coffins were supplied by the Pelsall Coal and Iron Company, who contributed £5 as funeral expenses in every case. The company are also about to head a public subscription list with £50, and many colliers have already intimated their intention to contribute. Subscription boxes, in the care of Mr. E. F. Butler, Mr. T. Richardson, and Mr. James, the scripture reader of Short Heath, are placed in the Market Place, Willenhall, in High Street, Bloxwich, and on the Bridge, Walsall.”

1881 Census

Short Heath – DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE

- [1] *Mary Ann Henworth* (51), widow, beer seller, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Joseph Henworth (18), son, key filer, born Willenhall;
- [3] Samuel Henworth (16), son, key filer, born Willenhall;
- [4] Altha Henworth (14), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Francis Henworth (11), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] John Henworth (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/4/1882

“*William Henworth*, landlord of the DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE beerhouse, Short Heath, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house on the 20th ult. He was fined 10s and costs.”

1891 Census

Front Lane, Short Heath

- [1] *William Henworth* (41), publican, born Clarks Lane;

- [2] Sarah Henworth (37), wife, born Short Heath;
- [3] Harriet Ann Smith (19), daughter, married, born Short Heath;
- [3] John Smith (30), son in law, key manufacturer, born New Invention;
- [5] Laura Henworth (16), daughter, school teacher, born Short Heath;
- [6] Bertha Henworth (13), daughter, scholar, born Short Heath;
- [7] Gladys Henworth (3), daughter, scholar, born Short Heath:

1901 Census

Front Lane – DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE

- [1] *William Henworth* (51), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;
- [2] Sarah Henworth (47), wife, born Short Heath;
- [3] Laura Dykes (26), daughter, married, born Short Heath;
- [4] Gladys Henworth (13), daughter, born Short Heath;
- [5] Vivian Smith (8), grandson, born Short Heath;
- [6] Lilian Morris (17), domestic servant, born Short Heath:

William Henworth, beer retailer, Short Heath. [1904]

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/2/1914

“The annual Licensing Sessions were held on Thursday.....

The Court recommended that notices be served to the effect that the OLD CROWN INN, New Invention, and the DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, Short Heath, be scheduled for consideration for closing.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/3/1914

“At the adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton county division on Monday.....

The license of the DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE INN, Short Heath, was also opposed on the ground of redundancy. The average takings were £11 9s per week during the past year. The house was 200 years old, had a clean record, and the lessees had the option of buying it for £2,500. The license was renewed.....

The magistrates said there were too many public-house in that locality.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 17/1/1925

“A large company assembled on the occasion of the annual supper at the DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE INN, Short Heath, on Saturday last, and passed a pleasant time. The supper was followed by a musical entertainment, to which Messrs. Rowbottom, R. Corbett, and J. Jenkins contributed.”

1939 Register

82, Coltham Road (5 of 6)

- [1] *George Henworth*, date of birth 1/2/1881, beerhouse keeper, married;
- [2] *Lydia Henworth*, dob 23/2/1882, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Irene (Henworth) Povey*, dob 18/2/1921, press worker, spring works, single;
- [4] *Isaiah Evans*, dob 14/8/1913, sheet metal worker, aircraft components, married;
- [5] *Gladys Evans*, dob 8/1/1917, unpaid domestic duties, married;

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, North Division. [1946]

1951 Probate

“*George Henworth*, of 82 Coltham Road, Short Heath, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 27 January 1951. Administration Birmingham 19 April to *Lydia Henworth*, widow. Effects £961 16s 5d.”

Ronald William Hines was married to Eileen Janet.
He died.

Closed

It reopened on 9th July 2009.

Christopher Norman Plumbly was married to Lorraine.

[2016]

DUKE OF WELLINGTON

Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/10/1861

“On Friday last, an inquest was held before Mr. T. M. Phillips, at the DUKE OF WELLINGTON public house, Portobello, upon the body of Elisha Howil, miner, aged 49 years. On the 20th of September last, whilst the deceased was working in No.17 stone pit, at the Rough Hay Colliery, Sedgley, belonging to Messrs. John Addenbrooke, an explosion of fire damp took place, and inflicted serious injuries upon him. The deceased lingered till the 9th of this month, when he died. Mr. Charles Handy, surgeon, of Darlaston, had attended him since the accident. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

ELM PARK TAVERN

75, Stringes Lane, (Elm Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Richard Henshaw [1901] – [1912]
Mrs. Florence Fanny Henshaw [1939] – [1940]
E C Roberts [1976]
Billington [1986]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1901 Census

Stringes Lane – Beerhouse

- [1] *Richard Henshaw* (72), engine driver (iron works), born Sedgley;
- [2] *Fanny Henshaw* (70), wife, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [3] *John Henshaw* (79), brother, widower, born Sedgley;
- [4] *William John Wakelam* (21), grandson, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Ada Jane Wakelam* (23), granddaughter, born Willenhall:

Richard Henshaw, beer retailer, Stringes Lane. [1904]

1911 Census

75, Stringes Lane

- [1] *Richard Henshaw* (82), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Fanny Henshaw* (80), wife, married 58 years, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Ada Jane Wacklin* (sic) (31), granddaughter, assisting in business, born Willenhall:

Richard Henshaw, beer retailer, 75, Stringes Lane. [1912]

1939 Register

75, Stringes Lane

- [1] *Florence F. Henshaw*, date of birth 2/11/1886, licensee, married;

[2] John Henshaw, dob 28/8/1886, brass finisher, out of work, married:

[2008]

Closed [2011], [2016]

[Express & Star 23/4/2022](#)

“A pub outside Willenhall town centre will be converted into a pizza restaurant after plans were backed by council chiefs. Walsall Council backed the move which will see the disused ELM PARK TAVERN, on Stringes Lane, transformed. The move will see the restaurant serve pizza and alcoholic drinks, and will offer four full-time jobs created when the conversion is complete. The six car parking spaces already at the pub will be kept. The venue will be open from noon to 11pm from Monday to Friday, noon to 1am on Saturday and noon to 11pm on Sunday and bank holidays.”

ENGINE

Wolverhampton Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Carter [1833]

ENGINE

Lane Head, (Sandbeds), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Pritchard [1834] – [1851]

NOTES

Sandbeds [1842]

ENGINE HOUSE

Waterglade, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Wood [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license. [1834]

FALCON

Gomer Street West, (77, (47), Gomer Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd.
Ansell's Ltd.
Taylor (acquired in 1984)

LICENSEES

John Warrender [1891]
Robert W. Warrender [1901]
William Warrender [1904]
William Henry Wesley [1911] – [1912]
Mrs. Alice Maud Elwell [1939] – [1940]
Bob Harvey [1982]
Kevin Taylor [1984] – **1999**;
Michael Andrew 'Mick' Taylor (**1999** – [2012])

NOTES

47, Gomer Street [1891], [1904]
77, Gomer Street [1912], [1940]
Gomer Street West [1985]

It was built on the site of a chapel.

1891 Census

47, Gomer Street

- [1] *John Warrender* (66), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Henrietta Warrender (61), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *William Warrender* (25), son, brewer, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

Gomer Street

- [1] *Robert W. Warrender* (37), unmarried, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ellen E. Price (22), general servant, born Willenhall:

William Warrender, beer retailer, 47, Gomer Street. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“Birmingham and District Miniature Rifle League.....

The semi-final of the above was shot on Tuesday last at the Elephant and Castle, between the Newport Arms and FALCON (Willenhall) teams of six-a-side, when the Newport Arms six qualified for final by scoring 134 to their opponents 131. S. Kendrick obtained a possible.”

1911 Census

FALCON INN – Gomer Street

- [1] *William Henry Wesley* (26), publican, born Chasetown, Staffordshire;
- [2] Gertrude Emma Wesley (23), wife, married 2 years, born Holmfirth, Yorkshire;
- [3] Wilfred Willmin Wesley (7 months), son, born Cannock;
- [4] Lillian Dorothy Gee (18), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

William Wesley, beer retailer, 77, Gomer Street. [1912]

It was demolished in 1936.

Rebuilt

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/4/1938

“The Staffordshire Licensing Confirmation Committee sat at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Tuesday, to consider the confirmation of provisional licenses and removal orders granted in the petty sessional courts.....

Wine licenses were also granted in respect of the following beerhouses.....

FALCON INN, Gower Street, Willenhall.”

1939 Register

Gomer Street West – FALCON INN

[1] *Alice M. Elwell*, date of birth 29/3/1880, licensee, manageress, widowed;

[2] Florence (Birch) Beech, dob 10/4/1920, barmaid, single:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

Sandwell Evening Mail 16/7/1994

“Down Your Local. FALCON, Willenhall.

Landlord *Kevin Taylor* will never forget the day he interviewed a woman for a barmaid’s job – and found himself a wife! *Kevin* had just arrived at the FALCON and, after 200 customers turned up on his first night, he decided he couldn’t cope without more bar staff. Among the applicants was Pauline Doughty, who had previously worked at the pub but left when the management changed. ‘Having worked here she seemed to be the ideal person for the job,’ says *Kevin*. ‘I gave her the job and we soon realised that we got on really well. So well, in fact, that within a year we were married!’ Pauline, aged 45, soon stamped her authority on the business. ‘She’s only 5ft 4ins tall,’ says her husband. ‘But I remember one occasion when she single-handedly ejected no less than 17 troublemakers from the pub. I couldn’t have coped without her. It’s the best job interview I’ve ever done.’ It’s a real family affair at the pub these days. *Kevin*’s dad Stan helps out in the cellar while Michelle, one of four children Pauline had from a previous marriage, is a barmaid.

The atmosphere in the public bar is games-oriented, with particularly enthusiastic cards and darts players. *Kevin* is especially proud of the fact that the pub crib team has won the local Sunday morning league for each of the last 10 years. A fishing club meets at the FALCON, which is a free house, every Tuesday, and there are occasional quizzes in the lounge. This weekend, some of the regulars are holding a 24-hour darts marathon to raise money for Compton Hospice at Wolverhampton. But perhaps the pub’s best claim to fame is the vast and ever-changing range of real ales available. *Kevin* has a little black book in which he religiously records all the guest beers he’s had in the 10 years he’s been at the pub. ‘It was up to 260 at the last count,’ he boasted. ‘They come from all over the country. If they are not just right, I send them back.’ In addition to the three regular beers, Marston’s Pedigree is usually available and Greene King Abbot Ale is a frequent guest.....

Bristol-based brewers Hardingtons, one of *Kevin*’s suppliers, think a lot of him, so much so that they named a beer after him to mark his 10 years at the FALCON last May.”

Kevin Taylor – see also TOP STAR, Tipton.

Kevin and *Michael Andrew Taylor* were brothers.

It was Walsall Branch of CAMRA’s Pub of the Year 2005, 2006, 2007, and joint winner in 2009.

Black Country Bugle 7/4/2021

Article by Steve James

“.....The FALCON in Gomer Street West, Willenhall, retains many original 1930s fittings, including terrazzo tiling, bar back, benches and embossed wallpaper, and is included in CAMRA’s inventory of historic pubs.”

[2016]

Express & Star 27/4/2023

“A boarded-up old Willenhall pub badly damaged by a fire and metal thieves could be turned into house of multiple occupation (HMO). Plans have gone into Walsall Council to transform the FALCON INN, in Gomer Street, into a 15-bedroom residential development which would be split into two separate units. The FALCON has been closed since April last year but applicants Falcon Gomer Street Ltd. said the damage is too significant for it to be viable to operate as a pub again. It added there were a number of other pubs in the area – all within 800 metres of the FALCON. A HMO management plan has also been drawn up to ensure the proposed housing was up to standards and compliant with legislation and best practice.

Agents Boughton Butler said, ‘The public house was functional until April 2022, where it closed due to viability issues associated with its use. Since then it has been closed to the public and has been actively marketed since 2022. In January 2023 the building was subject to vandalism and a break in where all of the copper and steel associated with the heating system was stripped and stolen, and the premises also flooded due to the removal of pipework. Furthermore as the time of the vandalism the building was set alight and internally the entire building has significant smoke damage. In the case of the FALCON, the recent vandalism and arson attack on the property has patently rendered the building unviable to re-open as a public house. Fundamentally, whilst the applicant could demonstrate that the building is not viable to retain in its current use; where a new publican would need to invest

significantly in the building, and those investments are not likely to be returned quickly given the market conditions, it is considered that the loss of the pub would not have detriment to the local community given the quantum of community facilities within close proximity to the site.' It added, 'The proposals include the change of use of the building from a public house into two large HMOs consisting of an eight unit ground floor HMO, and a seven room first floor HMO including the use of the pub garden for amenity space and vehicular driveway for shared parking. In order to facilitate the new residential use the building will, internally, undergo alterations including some demolition to form the internal arrangements for the HMO units with shared kitchen, dining, living and bathroom facilities. The two HMO units will be split horizontally over the two storeys, with the basement reserved only for landlord storage and maintenance. Externally some minor alterations to the fenestration are necessary where internal partition walls are proposed or windows are required to be installed for natural light, and a small rear extension is proposed to facilitate additional internal floor area. The former garden to the public house will be retained as shared amenity space for both HMO units, as well as containing bin and cycle storage.'

Walsall Council planning officers are expected to make a decision on the proposal next month."

FIGHTING COCKS

New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Tarbuck [1833] – [1838]

NOTES

William Tarbuck, locksmith and retail brewer, New Invention. [1833]

FIRST AND LAST

11, Bloxwich Road, (Blockwich Road), New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Tarbuck [1871] – [1881]

Joseph William Whitehouse [1931]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

11, Blockwich Road

[1] *Thomas Tarbuck* (60), publican and lock maker, born New Invention;

[2] Ann Tarbuck (55), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Martha Tarbuck (19), daughter, born Bloxwich;

[4] Thomas Spate (20), servant, born Bilston:

Thomas Tarbuck, beer retailer and lock maker, New Invention. [1872]

1881 Census

New Invention – FIRST AND LAST

[1] *Thomas Tarbuck* (70), beer seller, born New Invention;

- [2] Ann Tarbuck (65), wife, born Bloxwich;
[3] Mary Tarbuck (27), unmarried, daughter, born New Invention;
[4] Ann Tarbuck (8), granddaughter, scholar, born New Invention:

[1908]

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/5/1931

“The Licensing (Consolidation Act), 1910. County of Stafford.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1901, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Monday, the 27th day of July, 1931, at 11 o'clock am.

And Notice Is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation Act), 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

FIRST AND LAST, New Invention. Beerhouse ante 1869. Licensee, *Joseph William Whitehouse*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/8/1931

“The principal meeting of the Staffordshire Compensation Authority was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Monday, Mr. T. B. Adams (chairman) presiding. Ten cases had been referred to the Authority by the Licensing Justices below, and in three of these applications were successfully made for the renewal of the licenses.....

Formal applications for the renewal of the following licenses were not granted.....

FIRST AND LAST, New Invention, Willenhall.”

Lichfield Mercury 8/1/1932

“At Staffordshire quarter sessions, held at Stafford on Tuesday, the County Licensing Committee reported that the number of licenses referred last year from seven divisions and boroughs was ten, seven of which the committee refused to renew, compensation being fixed as follows.....

Willenhall Division: FIRST AND LAST, New Invention, beerhouse, £1,650.”

FORGE TAVERN

117, (118), St. Annes Road / Sharesacre Street, Spring Bank, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

LICENSEES

Silas Tonks []

George Harbach [1912]

Edward Evans [1932] – [1940]

S E Hill [1976]

NOTES

118, St. Annes Road [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940], [1976], [2005]

117, St. Annes Road [2005]

Silas Tonks was the father of Dr. Joseph Tonks.

[1908]

George Harbach, beer retailer, 118, St. Annes Road. [1912]

Edward Evans, beer retailer, 118, St. Anns Street. [1932]

1939 Register

118, St. Annes Road

[1] *Edward Evans*, date of birth 17/4/1878, publican, married;

[2] Lily Evans, dob 24/9/1888, housewife, married;

[3] Edward L. Evans, dob 30/7/1904, lockmaker, single;

[4] William Evans, dob 22/8/1905, matrix maker, pattern moulder, single, air raid warden;

[5] Florence E. (Evans) Roberts, dob 14/2/1917, domestic help (at home), single;

[6] Kathleen (Evans) Ritchings, dob 19/3/1918, packing, warehouse, single:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, North Division. [1946]

It was closed in the late 1980s.

It reopened circa 1989.

[2016]

FOUNTAIN

Willenhall Green, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Maria Hartill [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

FREE TRADE

Hall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Carpenter [1853] – [1856]

Mrs. Carpenter [1858]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1855

“The annual licensing day for this district of the county was held at the County Magistrates’ Office, Bilston Street, in this town, on Thursday last Applications for new licenses.....

Mr. Hayes applied for Mr. *John Carpenter*, late proprietor of the TURKS HEAD, at Willenhall, for a license to the FREE TRADE INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall. Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of the person to whom *Carpenter* had disposed of the TURKS HEAD, and produced a plan to show that the FREE TRADE INN was situated immediately opposite the back way to the TURKS HEAD, and could not fail to be greatly detrimental to the business which the applicant had disposed of to his client. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1856

“Applications for new licenses. There were fourteen applications altogether for licenses to sell spirits – all from beershop keepers – only four of which were granted by the Magistrates.

Mr. Hayes applied on behalf of *John Carpenter*, of Willenhall, who had kept a beershop, called FREE TRADE, for three or four years without any complaint having been made against him.

Mr. Underhill, who opposed the claim, said that there were six old-licensed houses within 130 yards of the FREE TRADE beer-shop.

Mr. Hayes rejoined that the other houses did not afford the necessary accommodation, which was proved by the fact that the revising barrister and the coroner always held their courts at the FREE TRADE, where greater convenience and good stabling were supplied. The certificate was signed by the Poor Law Guardians and almost every person of respectability in the place.

Mr. Underhill said that the applicant was guilty of a breach of faith in making the claim. He had formerly been the occupier of the TURKS HEAD licensed public house, which he sold to Mr. Butler for the sum of £200, and immediately after the transfer he commenced building this beershop, and made an application for a license. There was no necessity for any additional houses, for the CROWN was within 64 yards of FREE TRADE.

Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/8/1858 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property At Willenhall

Mr. Greader will Sell by Auction, at the ALBION INN, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, on Thursday, the 26th day of August, 1858, at six o'clock in the evening, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions to be then read.

All that newly-erected and well-frequented Public House, known by the sign of the FREE TRADE INN, together with the Grocer's Shop adjoining thereto, situate in and fronting to Hall Street, Willenhall aforesaid, for several years successfully carried on by Mr. *John Carpenter*, now deceased, and now by his widow, Mrs. *Carpenter*.

And also all those five Messuages or Dwelling Houses situate behind the before mentioned Public House, and now in the occupation of ——— Brown, and others.

Further information may be obtained on application to the Auctioneer, Willenhall; or to Messrs. Hawksford and Parkes, Solicitors, Wolverhampton.”

GATE

4, Lichfield Road, (Bloxwich Road), (3, New Invention), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mary Tarbuck [1833] – [1840]

William Tarbuck [1841] – **1863**;

George Tarbuck (**1863** – [1868]

Enoch Whitehouse [1871] – **1877**);

George Crowson (**1877** – []

Mrs. Martha Crowson [1891] – [1916]

Reginald Smith [1921] – [1923]

Ernest Lawrence [1932] – [1940]

NOTES

3, New Invention [1871]

Bloxwich Road [1901]

4, Lichfield Road [1911]

GATE HANGS WELL [1860], [1872], [1892], [1904], [1908], [1916], [1921]

GATE SWINGS WELL [1872]

1841 Census

New Invention

- [1] *William Tarbuck* (55), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Tarbuck* (50), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Joseph Tarbuck* (25), miner, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Catherine Tarbuck* (25), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Mary Tarbuck* (70), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Phoebe Cleverley* (70), born Staffordshire:

1861 Census

New Invention

- [1] *William Tarbuck* (75), victualler, born New Invention;
- [2] *Mary Tarbuck* (73), wife, born New Invention;
- [3] *Stephen Tarbuck* (35), son, locksmith, born New Invention;
- [4] *Mary Tarbuck* (11), granddaughter, born New Invention;
- [5] *Elizabeth Parton* (21), house maid, born Herefordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/7/1861

“On Saturday last W. H. Phillips, Esq., coroner, held an inquest, at the GATE INN, on the body of an old man named Edward Pearson, John Street, Willenhall, who had been found drowned in the Birmingham Canal by a woman named Sophia Taylor, on the previous Thursday. Deceased has for some time back been greatly depressed in spirits in consequence of shortness of work, and on the morning of the 4th inst. he gave his sister half-a-crown for lodgings, and when he left the house he complained of a pain in his head. An hour or two afterwards his body was found in the canal. The jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/11/1862

“At the Police Court, on Monday, Joseph Whitehouse, landlord of the JOLLY COLLIERS public house, New Invention, was charged by *George Tarbuck*, landlord of the GATE public house, of the same place, with having assaulted him. It appears the parties are brothers-in-law, and their respective public houses being situated opposite each other at the above place, this latter circumstance seems to have engendered a little trade hostility. They met on Monday evening week at the house of complainant and quarrelsome words were succeeded by blows on both sides. As, however, it was proved that defendant struck the first blow, he was ordered to pay a fine of 1s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/8/1863

“At the County Petty Sessions, on Monday last The license of the GATE INN, Willenhall, was transferred from *William Tarbuck* to his son *George*.....”

George Tarbuck was also a cabinet lock maker. [1864], [1865]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 25/3/1865

“A. Clulee (a novice) of New Invention, near Wolverhampton, will run Cox, Perry, or either of the Stewards (all of Wolverhampton) 120 yards level, or take two yards of Whistance of Darlaston, for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready at the GATE INN, New Invention, any time next week.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/8/1866

“*George Tarbuck*, keeper of the GATE INN, New Invention, Willenhall, was charged at the Police Court, on Monday, with having had his house open for the purpose of sale during prohibited hours on Sunday the 22nd ult. The charge was supported by a witness named Fleeing who proved that three quarts of ale were paid for and drank after the proper time. The Bench imposed a fine of 10 and cost.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, in this county, was held on Friday, at the County Magistrates’ Room, Bilston Street. The Magistrates on the Bench were H. Hill, J. Perks, S. Cartwright, and B. Hicklin, Esqs.

The Magistrates suspended the licenses of James Jones, the MALT SHOVEL Inn, Portobello, and *George Tarbuck*, the GATE INN, New Invention, who had both been fined during the year, until the adjourned licensing day, on 10th of September next. All the other licenses were renewed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/9/1866

“On Monday last the licenses of *George Tarbuck* [sic], publican, and John Brooks, the CHARLES IN THE OAK, the New Invention, which were suspended at the last licensing day, in consequence of the occupiers having been fined for infringing the regulations – were again renewed with a caution from the Magistrates to conduct their houses better in future.”

George Tarbuck, beer retailer, New Invention. [1868]

1871 Census

3, New Invention

- [1] *Enoch Whitehouse* (52), publican, born New Invention;
- [2] Sarah Whitehouse (54), wife, born Wapsley, Staffordshire;
- [3] Ann Whitehouse (16), daughter, born New Invention;
- [4] George Whitehouse (15), son, born New Invention;
- [5] Frederick Hopley (10), grandson, born Aldridge, Shropshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

“Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Alehouses: *Enoch Whitehouse*, GATE SWINGS WELL, New Invention.....”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 30/11/1875

“*Enoch Whitehouse*, landlord of the GATE HANGS WELL INN, New Invention, was summoned for permitting drunkenness upon his premises. Mr. Barrow, solicitor to the Wolverhampton Licensed Victuallers Association, defended.

It was proved by Police-constable Ainsworth that upon the evening of the 15th inst he visited the defendant’s house, and found a man there apparently asleep, with his head upon a table. Witness shook the man up and found that he was drunk. The officer asked the landlord how he allowed the man to be drunk in his house, to which *Whitehouse* replied that the man had only spent about 6d in the house. It subsequently transpired that the defendant had been convicted in 1872 for permitting gambling in his house.

The landlord gave evidence on his own behalf, denying positively that the man was drunk. He accounted for the fact of the man laying his head upon the table by stating that he did not wish to hear a song which was being sung.

Mr. Barrow addressed the Bench at some length, and called a witness who corroborated the defendant’s statement.

The Bench gave the defendant the benefit of a doubt which existed in their minds respecting a guilty knowledge on his part, and dismissed the case.

The effect of this decision is rather curious, as only last week the ‘man lying with his head on the table’ was fined for being drunk on Mr. *Whitehouse*’s premises.”

1891 Census

Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Martha Crowson* (58), widow, licensed victualler, born Dallington, Northamptonshire;
- [2] Alfred Crowson (34), son, coachman, born Dallington, Northamptonshire:

Walsall Advertiser 18/9/1897

“Inns and their Signs by H. H. McConnal.....

At New Invention (does anyone know the origin of this extraordinary name?), was the GATE, with the rhyming couplet
*This GATE hangs well and hinders none,
Refresh and pay and travel on.*”

Walsall Advertiser 2/10/1897 - Correspondence

“To the Editor of the *Walsall Advertiser*.

Sir, I noticed in the interesting contribution to your paper of September 18, on Inns and their Signs, the writer asked the question referring to New Invention. This appellation is given in the Ordnance maps to a hamlet in the Urban District of Short Heath, consisting of 207 houses on the main road from Lichfield to Wolverhampton, about half way between Bloxwich and Wednesfield. The name is certainly not modern, as it dates back upwards of a century, the oldest inhabitants never having heard it spoken of by any other name. Even a casual observer passing through the place would notice that all the houses have been built on narrow strips each side the road, which strips doubtless were originally a part of the main road. The houses now standing, with perhaps one exception, are comparatively modern, standing on the sites of the ‘clod huts’ of the original squatters. These were very primitive in their structure, consisting, generally, of one room on the ground floor, the walls of which were built of clay on a framework of wood covered by a thatched roof, surmounted by a turf or ‘clod’ chimney.

Here then begins my story of the origin of the name. The inhabitants of one of these huts at the entrance of the hamlet were troubled beyond endurance by a smokey chimney. After trying a good many methods, without effect, the husband knocked one end out of a disused barrel churn and placed it on the top of the offending opening in the roof. This novel sight attracted the neighbours and passers by, and, so the story runs, when the good wife was questioned in regard to it she invariably replied that it was A New Invention. Hence the whole of the colony became known by the name The New Invention. The truth of this story is supported by the evidence of all the old inhabitants that I have spoken to on the question. They all agree in the details even assuring me that their fathers, and grand-fathers in some cases, told them the story.

What does the philologist say? Can Mr. Duignan throw any light on the question?

Yours truly, G. Whelpton Johnson, September 29th, 1897. Short Heath Vicarage.”

1901 Census

Bloxwich Road, New Invention – GATE INN

- [1] *Martha Crowson* (68), widow, publican, born Dallington, Northamptonshire;
- [2] Alfred Crowson (44), son, assistant publican, born Dallington, Northamptonshire;

- [3] Ellen Crowson (37), daughter in law, assistant publican, born Short Heath;
[4] Martha Crowson (7), granddaughter, born Short Heath;
[5] Lilly Crowson (3), granddaughter, born Short Heath;
[6] Ellen Crowson (1), granddaughter, born Short Heath:

1911 Census

4, Lichfield Road, New Invention

- [1] *Martha Crowson* (76), widow, publican, born Dudington, Northamptonshire;
[2] Alfred Crowson (53), son, assisting in the business, born Dudington, Northamptonshire;
[3] Ellen Crowson (46), daughter in law, married 18 years, born New Invention;
[4] Lilly Crowson (13), granddaughter, school, born New Invention;
[5] Ellen Crowson (11), granddaughter, school, born New Invention;
[6] George Alfred Crowson (10), grandson, school, born New Invention;
[7] Beatrice Crowson (7), granddaughter, school, born New Invention:

South Staffordshire Times 18/8/1923

“At a special Court, before the Stipendiary, at Wolverhampton, *Reginald Smith*, licensee of the GATE INN, New Invention, Wil-lenhall, was charged with allowing betting on his premises on August 3rd, 6th, and 7th, and gambling on August 3rd and 7th. Edith Cook, the barmaid at the inn, was charged with aiding and abetting, and 13 persons (two of them bookmakers) were charged with frequenting the premises.

Mr. Sharpe prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. Frank Cooper defended.

On Mr. Cooper’s suggestion it was agreed to hear the case against the landlord first, the latter pleading ‘Not guilty’ to all the charges against him.

Mr. Sharpe said *Smith* had been licensee of the GATE INN for about three years, and for some time past the police had had reason to believe that the house had been improperly conducted.

On August 3rd, continued Mr. Sharpe, five persons – not policemen – visited the house, with the knowledge of the police. Two of the visitors were women. On that day defendant was not present, but Mrs. *Smith* was there. She invited the two women to sit in the smoke room, and the three men went into the bar. The visitors saw betting slips being written out and handed to a bookmaker or an agent of a bookmaker. They also saw a little boy and a little girl hand slips and money to a man.

On August 6th four of the persons and one policeman again visited the premises. On this occasion a number of slips were written out by different men. The landlord himself received some of the slips, and there was also a bookmaker there.

‘The landlord was encouraging betting,’ said Mr. Sharpe, ‘because he mentioned openly he had received a tip for a horse named Lady of the Rose, which was running at Birmingham, and actually invited the persons to bet on the horse by placing the letter containing the tip above the mantelshelf, so that the public might see it. They were told it was a ‘dead cert’ if they backed the horse. The letter was subsequently found on the floor when the police raided the house. Generally speaking, there was a sporting atmosphere about the house.’

On August 7th the same people went to the premises again and saw betting slips being written out in profusion. Children came and handed in the slips to the landlord. The barmaid was assisting in collecting the slips from the children. In addition they had seen card playing at the house on the 3rd and 7th inst.

Mr. Sharpe, in conclusion, said that the people he mentioned would be called as witnesses, and for obvious reasons he asked that their names and addresses should not be disclosed to the public.

The Stipendiary consented to the course, and suggested that the witnesses should be referred to as ‘No.1,’ ‘No.2,’ and so on.

The anonymous witnesses gave evidence endorsing Mr. Sharpe’s statement. ‘No.1’ declared that on one occasion an old gentleman asked him to write a slip out for him containing the names of three horses, and he did so.

Witness ‘No.4’ declared that when he visited the house he saw the men playing cards and handing out money at the end of the game. He did not know what the game was.

Mr. Cooper said he would call a number of men who would say they often played cards at the house, but not for money. They would say they played whist, and no money passed.

Mr. Cooper questioned witness about the slips he had seen pass between customers and the landlord.

‘Didn’t you know there had been a pigeon race, and that what was handed to the landlord was the slips containing the results of the race?’ asked Mr. Cooper.

Witness said he did not know that there had been a pigeon race. *Smith* put the slips in his pocket.

Witness ‘No.2,’ a woman, stated that she saw a little girl and then a little boy both hand a man, who she could not identify, a slip containing money. The landlady meantime kept looking out of the window to see if anyone was coming. On the 6th inst., she saw the same sort of thing going on at the house, and several children said to the landlord, ‘Where is the bookie?’ and *Smith* replied, ‘I don’t know, but I will look for him.’

That day *Smith* brought into the bar a telegram, and said he had a dead cert, Lady of the Rose.

She also saw a man collecting betting slips in the smoke room. These he took outside, and handed to another man in a grey suit.

At a subsequent visit witness heard a man say that he had lost all his wages ‘through the —— going down.’ Children again came to the house on that day, and handed slips to the landlord, saying it was from ‘Mam’ or ‘Dad.’

In cross-examination, witness admitted she had discussed with others which man was the bookmaker, and someone had pointed a man out to her as the bookmaker. She also agreed that on one date when she was at the house she heard a discussion about pigeon racing. She was not aware that the slips handed to the landlord were in connection with pigeon racing.

The case was adjourned to the Bilston Police Court on Tuesday next.”

South Staffordshire Times 25/8/1923

“Before the Stipendiary, at Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, *Reginald Smith*, licensee of the GATE INN, New Invention, Willenhall, was again charged with allowing betting on his premises on August 3rd, 6th, and 7th, and gambling on August 3rd and 7th. Edith Cook, the barmaid at the inn, was charged with aiding and abetting.

At a previous court thirteen persons were charged with frequenting the premises in connection with betting.

Mr. Sharpe prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. Frank Cooper appeared for the defendants.

The first portion of the case (against the licensee only) was heard at Wolverhampton on the previous Friday, when three witnesses (including one woman) whose names were not disclosed, gave evidence that on two or three occasions they were in the house when betting slips were passed between the licensee, the barmaid and customers. Children were among those who came to the house with slips and money, and a bookmaker was generally present. There were frequent conversations regarding horse racing and telegrams relating to it were also received. One witness said that on one occasion she heard a man say, ‘I have lost all my wages through the —— going down.’

PC Hewitt (Coseley) stated that about 12.30pm on the 6th August, in company with others, he went to the GATE INN. He there saw the landlord, who was in the bar. Witness and two other men who were with him went into the bar, but two women who were with them went into the smokeroom. One of the men called for three half-pints of beer, and also for a port wine for one of the women. The landlord supplied the drinks. There were about twenty men in the bar several of whom were reading sporting newspapers. Witness noticed a man whom he knew to be Chas. Taylor receiving betting slips from customers. He was one of the men who had been summoned. He also noticed another man whom he knew to be Frank Green receiving betting slips from customers. A man handed a slip to Green and said, ‘What do you think about these two for today?’ and Green replied, ‘All right.’ Witness heard the landlord ask Taylor to go into the kitchen. They went out, but returned a few minutes later, and Charles Taylor said he had had a telegram that morning, giving the name of a horse which he said was a ‘dead cert’. About 1.35 witness saw two children come to the bar door, and they handed betting slips and money to the barmaid. She gave them to the landlord, who asked: ‘Who brought these?’ She did not speak, but looked towards the children at the bar door. The landlord then said to one of them, ‘All right sonny, I’ll see to it.’ The landlord then opened the slips, and witness saw that they contained money. The landlord put the money somewhere beneath the counter. Taylor also received slips and money from customers. In the landlord’s presence one of the customers asked witness if he was going to back anything that day, and advised him to back ‘Lady of the Rose,’ as it was a ‘dead cert.’ Witness told him that he was not going to back anything. About 1.45 a man came into the bar, and asked for a pint of beer. When the landlord saw who it was he said, ‘Hello, Jim, you lucky ——.’ The landlord then gave the man some money. He asked the man if he was going to back anything that day, and he replied that he did not know yet. About 1.15 next day witness again went to the house with the same persons. The women went into the smoke room, and witness and the two men went into the bar. There were more people there than on the previous day. Witness saw eight men playing with cards, and money passed between them. Other men were reading sporting papers and others were writing betting slips. Taylor and Green were present, and the landlord could see all that was going on. Three little boys came to the bar door. The barmaid went to them, and received from them something which looked like papers containing money. One of them said, ‘My dad has sent this.’ The barmaid gave the paper to the landlord. Witness noticed that after Taylor had received slips from some of the customers he entered names in a black book, and then returned the slips. Witness also saw Green receive slips and money from the customers. The landlord was there all the time, serving drinks. Witness was present when the raid was made, and pointed out to Detective Constable Thorpe several of the men whom he had seen taking part in betting.

Mr. Cooper: Will you swear that Taylor was there both on Monday and Tuesday? – Witness: Yes.

Mr. Cooper: You say that some of the betting slips contained money. How do you know? – Witness: The landlord opened some of the slips, and I saw money.

Mr. Cooper: Are you sure you heard the landlord say to one man, ‘You are a lucky ——’? – Witness: Yes.

Mr. Cooper: Could you identify the man if you saw him again? – Witness: Yes.

Mr. Cooper: Did you not see notices hung in the rooms, saying, ‘Gambling not allowed’? – Witness: I did not see one in the bar. I was not in the other rooms.

Detective-Constable Thorpe stated that at about 1.35pm on August 7th he went to the GATE INN in company with Inspector Young and other officers. When they went inside the landlord was there. Inspector Young told landlord he had a warrant, and that he was going to search the premises and seize any documents relating to racing or betting. The landlord replied: ‘You can search where you like.’ Witness then went into the bar, where he saw 20 to 25 men. Several were playing cards. PC Hewitt was there, in plain clothes, and he pointed out Frank Green at the same time saying that he had seen him receiving betting slips. Witness took Green into the passage, and searched him, but found nothing upon him relating to horse racing. Witness also searched a man named Harry Whitehouse, but found nothing relating to horse racing upon him. A man named Caddick was there, and witness saw him throw something under a seat, Hewitt picked it up, and on examining it witness found it was an envelope on which were Caddick’s name and address, and which contained eight betting slips. One related to a horse running at Birmingham that day. Witness also found a book under a seat, and that contained the names of horses running that day. On the shelf at the back of the bar witness found a letter relating to horses running that day and the previous day. He showed it to the landlord, but he made no reply. The letter was addressed to the landlord’s father. Witness also found a number of sporting papers in the bar, and also portions of betting slips on the floor.

Mr. Cooper: Have you produced everything found in the house? – Witness: No, other officers will produce other things.

Mr. Cooper: Some of the betting slips are obviously of considerable age? – Witness: No; I should say they are all of recent date.

PC Pidcock stated that he had accompanied other officers in making the raid, and assisted in the search behind the bar. He found two packs of playing cards, a tin containing lottery numbers, packets containing pigeon racing rings, a box of dominoes, sporting papers, and a ‘strap’ book.

PC Nixon, who took part in the raid, said he went into the smoke room. There were between 16 and 20 men there. He found several sporting papers there, and on the sporting page of an illustrated paper he noticed that '6d' had been written against the names of two horses running that day. Under the seat he found two betting slips relating to horses running at Brighton. He went into the clubroom and found a lot of torn papers. Among them were two betting slips relating to horses running that day. While the raid was taking place witness noticed Taylor standing outside. Witness knew him as a bookmaker or 'runner.'

Mr. Cooper: Was the landlord present when you found these things in the smoke room? – Witness: No.

PS Westbury (Bilston) said that during the raid he went into the club room with Sergeant Lycett. He saw there the landlord who came from a corner of the room. Witness told him he should search him, and he replied, 'All right, get on with it.' Witness found on him a paying out slip and another slip containing the names of six horses. There was also a paper giving instructions regarding betting and other documents of a similar nature.

PS Lycett (Coseley) said that he saw the landlord in the club room. Under a seat in the room witness found a number of betting slips, some of them referring to horses running that day. Money of different amounts was written against some of the names. Witness showed them to the landlord.

Mr. Cooper: Are you certain the landlord was there? – Witness: Yes; I saw him come from the corner in which I found the slips.

PC Wright (Ettingshall) said he examined the living room, at the back of the bar. In a chest of drawers he found a number of sporting papers of recent dates, and a message relating to betting. Another document he found contained the names of 67 persons. The names of horses and '1s' had been written against 36 of them. The document also said the first prize would be £2; the second 15s; and the third 9s.

This concluded the evidence against the landlord, and the case was adjourned for further hearing at Wolverhampton, on Wednesday afternoon.

The Landlord's Defence.

The case was resumed at Wolverhampton on Wednesday afternoon, when Mr. Cooper opened it for the defence.

Defendant said he had kept the house for three years without complaint. On the 3rd he was not in the house at all between 10.20 and 4 o'clock, leaving his wife in charge. On the 8th witness and the barmaid were in charge. He admitted that there was card playing, but not for money. He had notices hung up saying that gambling was not allowed. He did occasionally bet himself, but never allowed the house to be used by any bookmakers. Frank Green was in his house on the 6th, but Charles Taylor had not used the house for a month or two.

To his knowledge there was no one in the place on the date named taking bets. He admitted mentioning 'Lady of the Rose' being very good, but it was not true that the barmaid handed him any betting slips. One girl visited the house with a note from her father, but no little boys brought any thing. He said it was not true he paid a man some money and called him a 'lucky ——,' nor did he recollect asking a man if he was going to back anything. When he had 20 to 30 people in a small bar it was very difficult to see what everyone was doing.

On Tuesday the 7th, there was a pigeon race on, and he was 'packed out.' His wife was in charge of the bar, Edith Cook of the smoke room, and witness of the clubroom. Green was at the house, but Taylor was not. Witness did not hear any conversation about betting, nor did he see any slips made out.

A paper described as a paying-out slip, which was found on him, he said, was a list he been asked to reckon up for a customer. Another slip, containing the names of five horses was in another man's handwriting. Witness stated that he had never bought a sporting paper in his life.

Witness was questioned about the slips containing money found by Sergt. Lycett in the club-room, and denied any knowledge of them. He was 'astounded to think that they had been found in his house.'

Cross-examined, witness said he had done nothing wrong in the conduct of his house. He denied that he wrote 'Lady of the Rose' on a paper and put it behind the bar.

Mr. Cooper said if they went into any public house in Wolverhampton they would find the name of a horse written up. There were many amateur tipsters about.

Witness said it was untrue that Frank Green took betting slips in the house. He came in frequently, but only as an ordinary customer. Neither was it correct that children came to the house with slips, and that one asked for the 'bookie.' He admitted customers were playing whist, but no money passed.

The case was adjourned until Thursday at Wolverhampton.

The first witness on Thursday morning was Edith Cook, barmaid at the GATE INN, who said that on August Bank Holiday she was serving in the smoke room. She only saw one child come to the house, and that was a little boy named Belcher, who brought witness the letter (produced). She did not see men writing out betting slips, neither did she see any slips handed to the landlord. The only pieces of paper she gave defendants were Treasury notes for change.

On the following day she was again serving in the smoke room. She did not see slips being written out that day, neither did she see the landlord hand slips to a man named Taylor, or any other man.

Cross-examined, witness said she had been employed at the inn for six months and had never heard anything relating to betting discussed there.

John Sharratt, of Lichfield Road, New Invention, a witness on subpoena, said that he was in the club room when the police raided the inn. Earlier in the day he collected some betting slips (produced) for a bookmaker, and when the police entered the premises he 'popped' the slips into the corners of the seat on which he had been sitting.

Cross-examined, witness said he was going to take the slips to the bookmaker's house.

Thomas Stanhope of Essington, identified one of the slips found in the inn as having been written by him, and which he had given to a man named Wood. He had not been in the GATE INN or New Invention that day.

Samuel Gwilt, of 35, Sneyd Road, Essington, spoke of giving the witness Sharratt a number of slips in the Bull Ring.

In reply to Mr. Sharpe (prosecuting) witness admitted that on the previous day he wrote a betting slip whilst in the GATE INN and

gave it to a man named Smith in the smoke room.

The Stipendiary told Mr. F. Cooper (defending) he did not think on the evidence, he could hold that the prosecution had proved that the landlord had anything to do with the dropping of the packet of slips into the corner of the seat.

Charles Taylor, New Invention, said that he had been convicted of street bookmaking in May last. Since that time the landlord of the GATE INN refused to allow him on the premises, saying he would have no betting there. Witness detailed his movements on August 2nd, 6th and 7th, and said he was never at the GATE INN on those days.

Mr. Cooper: You understand you are on oath? Do you pledge yourself that since your conviction you have had nothing to do with bookmaking? – Witness: Yes; I have had nothing at all to do with horse racing since then.

In reply Mr. Sharpe, witness said that, in spite of the witness who had identified him as being at the premises, he swore that he was not there.

John Turner, 58, Essington Road, New Invention, stated that on the Friday and August Monday and Tuesday he was with Taylor, and the latter did not go to into the GATE INN.

Other witnesses gave similar evidence.

Edward Tarbuck said he met Taylor in the Bull Ring about 11.30. Taylor left witness about 12.45, and went in the direction of Lichfield Road and away from the GATE INN.

Henry Small, 73, Lichfield Road, New Invention, said he was in Taylor's home between 1 and 2 o'clock. He went there to see Taylor's brother. Charlie Taylor came into the house about 12.50 and had dinner. When children started shouting that there was a raid on, witness, Frederick and Charlie Taylor went to see what was happening. He fixed the time because he because there was a clock in the house, he had had his own dinner at 12. He got there before Charlie Taylor came in.

Frederick Taylor, brother of Charlie Taylor, said that on the day of the raid his brother came home to dinner about 12.45. Henry Small was in the house. His brother left about 1.50 to see the raid, which was in progress.

Peter Smith, 3, Wolverhampton Road, New Invention, said he was at the GATE INN on the Monday and Tuesday. He got there about 12 and left at two. He knew Charlie Taylor. Witness was in the tap room each day, but he did not see Charlie Taylor there. Witness was playing cards.

The Stipendiary: Then probably he would not see anybody.

Frank Green, Eight House Row, Essington, said that on the Friday before Bank Holiday he was at work at the Holly Bank Colliery. It could be checked by the books. He left his house at 7am, and got home about 3pm. It was impossible for him to have been at the GATE INN in the meantime. He was at the GATE INN on Bank Holiday. There was not the slightest truth that he was a bookmaker or collector of slips. He had never been connected in any way with a betting business. He had worked at the colliery for 24 years. He did not hand the landlord any slips on the Monday or at any other time. He did not write a betting slip or make a bet.

On the Tuesday the witness was in the tap room which was crowded at the time of the raid. He was searched, and upon him was found 4s 11d, a Roumanian shilling, a disinfectant bill, a purse, a French halfpenny and a club card; but nothing connected with betting. He did not see any betting slips handed to anybody.

Cross-examined, witness agreed that he was talking about horses, and that he had a sporting paper. When he made a bet he sent it to Bloxwich.

In his address for the defence, Mr. Cooper said that the burden of proof rested with the police, and after he had addressed the Stipendiary on the question of 'using,' His Worship said 'Supposing there was evidence that the landlord took slips and handed them on merely as a sort of pillar-box?'

Mr. Cooper: I suggest that would not be 'using' but undoubtedly 'suffering.'

The Stipendiary: I agree; you need not deal with the question of 'using.'

Mr. Cooper urged that the evidence as regards the Friday was of the flimsiest character, and that the Monday and Tuesday were in a holiday week, when it was admitted that there were from 50 to 60 people in the house. It was obvious that the evidence of the prosecution was not all lies, and probably some slips were passed by someone, but it had not been proved that the landlord or the person in charge was aware of what was going on. The witnesses for the prosecution were all connected with the police, and had been brought up in the atmosphere of Sherlock Holmes. Probably witnesses did see something; it would have been a miracle if they had not seen some betting slips in any house used by this class of person at such a time. But vastly different from connivance by the landlord.

The Stipendiary said the defence could not have been put better than Mr. Cooper had put it. He (the Stipendiary) found that the landlord had not used the house for betting purposes, but that betting had been carried on. He had never known a betting case in which so many witnesses had been called for the prosecution. Their evidence was affirmative, and if it was true there was ample upon which to convict. Five people chosen by the police had come forward, and it was difficult to believe that they had set out to concoct an untrue story so ingenious and so daring. His knowledge of human nature was probably that there was not a person in that Court who had not told a lie at some time. But they were seldom affirmative lies, such as meeting a person in the street, or doing a particular thing. They generally amounted to saying that a thing had not been done. That was the sort of lie that had been told in this case.

The charges against the licensee of 'using' the house for betting purposes was dismissed. The charges of 'suffering' the house to be used for betting were upheld on each of the three days, and fines of £2, £5, and £2 were inflicted with £25 6s 6d special costs. The Stipendiary added that he recognized defendant had lost his chances of getting a licensed house in the future, and, as the special costs were so heavy, he had reduced the fine solely on that account.

Other charges were adjourned sine die."

South Staffordshire Times 25/8/1923

"Arising out of a betting raid at the GATE INN, New Invention, which is reported elsewhere, Richard Smith, the licensee of the

inn, was summoned before the Stipendiary at Bilston, on Tuesday, for supplying intoxicating liquor, to be consumed on his premises, the same not being paid for at the time it was supplied.

Mr. Sharpe for the prosecution and Mr. Cooper represented defendant, who pleaded not guilty.

It was alleged that in making the betting raid the police discovered a book which showed that credit had been given for beer which had been consumed on the premises.

Joseph Shepherd, driver on a __, of Lichfield Road, New Invention, stated that nine weeks before the 13th of August, he went to the GATE INN. He only had 1s 6d in his possession, and with that he had three pints of beer. The landlord supplied him. When he had finished that he asked the landlord to lend him 2s, and he consented to do so. Witness told him he could 'keep it behind the counter' to pay for the drinks as they were served. Witness had four pints with that. Witness then asked the landlord to lend him some money to go to the pictures, and he did so. He owed the landlord 7s altogether, but some of this was money borrowed for household purposes when witness was not working.

Mr. Sharpe said that after that statement he must ask the stipendiary to allow him to treat Shepherd as a hostile witness, because it differed widely from the one he had made to the police.

The Stipendiary said this was a thing he always hesitated to do, but he thought that the circumstances now justified it. He did not believe witness had been telling the truth.

Mr. Sharpe then read a written statement made to PC Dixon, and signed by witness, who admitted that it was his signature, and that the statement was read over to him by the officer before he signed it. This was as follows: 'Nine weeks last Monday 13th August, in the morning, I went to the GATE INN, New Invention, I had 1s 6d in my possession, with which I had three pints of ale. I asked landlord to fill my jug until I came again, as I had no money. He filled it, and I had three more pints afterwards, which I told him I would pay for when I came again. I then asked him to lend me 5s to go to the pictures which he did. I don't owe him for anything else. I have often had beer and money off him before, but have always paid him. I have not been to the GATE since, and I still owe him for the four pints of ale and the 5s. The reason I remember the weeks is not having any money to pay with.

The Stipendiary: It is clear that the witness had been telling lies, and ought to be prosecuted, but whether he has been telling lies in conjunction with the landlord, I don't know.

Samuel Howard, miner, Bloxwich Road, Essington, said he had been in the habit of going to the GATE INN for many years, but had not been there within the last few months.

Mr. Sharpe: From time to time have you had drink from the present landlord while not paying for it at the time? – Witness: No, but I have borrowed money off him, and then spent it. I have also borrowed money for food and tobacco.

Mr. Sharpe: Have you ever asked him to fill your jug for you, and said you would pay him at the weekend? – Witness: No.

The Stipendiary: When you have borrowed money, have you had the money put into your hand? – Witness: Yes; and he has told me that if I never gave it him back he would never ask me for it.

The Stipendiary: Have you had any beer or money in this way in July or August of this year? – Witness: It was eighteen months and during the pit strike.

PC Pidcock stated that during the raid on the house he found a book (produced). The book was shown to the landlady, and she said 'That book is relating to drink that they owe us for.'

The Stipendiary said that the summons against the landlord would be dismissed but it was thoroughly unsatisfactory from the landlord's point of view. The landlady made a statement which was not evidence against him. Therefore he could not take it into account. At the same time he had not the slightest doubt about the real truth of the case. There was a book of transactions between different persons and the landlord, showing that the persons paid so much from time to time, and the only evidence against him being that of his wife, which was not admissible, and that of the two men, who at first told the police that that they had had 'strap' but who told a different story that day. It aroused the suspicion that these two men, having found that they had told stories to the police which might damage the landlord, went to someone who had put it into their heads to tell the stories that they had told that day. He did not know who did it, but the suspicion remained in his mind that it was the landlord.

Mr. Cooper said that he had not seen either of the witnesses until he saw them in the box that day. Defendant had also told him that he had not discussed the matter with them. They went to see him, but he told them that he did not wish to discuss it with them."

1939 Register

4, Lichfield Road

[1] Ernest Lawrence, date of birth 21/9/1877, licensed victualler, manager, married;

[2] Elizabeth J. Lawrence, dob 1/7/1877, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Gladys V. (Lawrence) Sadler, dob 27/7/1900, shop assistant, single;

[4] Ernest Lawrence, dob 14/11/1902, builder's labourer, widowed, police reservist;

[5] Elsie H. (Lawrence) Lycett, dob 19/11/1914, clerk, single;

[6] Emma W. (Lawrence) Bangham, dob 24/2/1917, day school teacher, single;

[7] David Lawrence, dob 10/12/1919, plumber, single;

[8] Betty Rose (Lawrence) Hunt, dob 18/11/1932, at school, single:

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

New Invention Rovers FC was founded here in 1954.

[1982]

Closed

It became Golden Gate Chinese restaurant. [2007]

GENERAL HAVELOCK

Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Enoch Walters [1859] – [1860]

NOTES

Enoch Walters was also a journeyman locksmith.

Birmingham Journal 5/11/1859

“At the Petty Sessions, on Monday, Mr. John Wright, printer and stationer, Willenhall, was charged with criminally assaulting Fanny Walters, the wife of *Enoch Walters*, keeper of the GENERAL HAVELOCK beer-shop, Portobello, on Saturday, the 22nd ultimo. Mr. Bartlett, of Wolverhampton, and Mr. Slater, of Darlaston, appeared for the defendant.

Mrs. Walters said: I am the wife of *Enoch Walters*, who keeps a public house in Portobello. About half-past eleven in the morning of the 22nd instant the defendant came to our house. He went first into the bar and called for a glass of ale. I fetched it from the cellar. When I came out of the cellar he had gone into the back kitchen. I put the ale on the table. He offered me the money and drew it back again. I got the money ultimately. I had no conversation with him. Mr. Wright was standing during that time. As soon as I got into the kitchen Mr. Wright got hold of me. He gave me the money into my hand and kept hold of my hand. As I was leaving the room he took me by the waist and tried to take me on the stairs, but I held up my hands and pushed him away. I told him to leave me alone. He said, ‘No, my darling, I shall do what I like with you, you are such a darling.’ Emma Jones came in at the time; in fact she was in the front kitchen at the time. She stood in the passage opposite. She could see me where she stood. After that Mr. Wright dragged me on the left-hand side of the back kitchen, behind a screen, and where no one could see us. She then described an act of great indecency. My master came in at the time, and I told him about it. I had sent a little boy, Emma Jones’s son, to tell my master to come. I sent for him before I went to draw the ale, as I was going down the steps. Another neighbour, named Jane Garbett, was in the house. In answer to the Chairman the prosecutrix said that though she knew the two women were in the house she did not raise an alarm or call for assistance. Her husband, when he came, asked the defendant what brought him there insulting his wife so many times. The defendant said if he had done any harm he only begged their pardon. The prosecutrix continued that she went for a policeman, and on her return the defendant had gone away in the direction of Wolverhampton. On Sunday Mr. Lewis came to the house to ask about the affair. He said he would make Wright come and go down on his knees before her. She replied that would not do for her. On Monday morning Mr. Lewis brought the defendant. He said he was very sorry, and wanted to make it up. Lewis brought a paper and a sovereign. The paper was to say that he would give her £4 more next day. Mr. Lewis came again on the Wednesday, but she refused all compromise. On cross-examination she said Mr. Lewis had never kissed her, or had her on his knee. She knew John Hazledine, but he had never kissed her, although he had tried. She also knew Jesse Potts, whom she had had up for a similar offence. She also knew Isaac Edge, but he had never kissed her. Mr. Wright had attempted to kiss her several times previously.

Emma Jones, and Jane Garbett, two neighbours, corroborated to some extent the evidence of prosecutrix.

Enoch Walters, the husband, was then examined. When he found the defendant in the back kitchen his dress was disarranged. He denied the charge at first, but afterwards said he was very sorry if he had done any harm. Mr. *Walters*, who seemed a very simple personage, was cross-examined at considerable length as to certain people who were supposed on various occasions taken liberties with his wife. In some respects his evidence contradicted that of the wife, but nothing of much importance pro or con was elicited.

Mr. Bartlett asked the Bench to dismiss the defendant on the graver charge, when he was ready to admit that his client had, by the blandishments of the prosecutrix, been induced to act with impropriety. The Bench, however, called on Mr. Bartlett to reply on the whole case. Mr. Bartlett then, while denying the charge of criminal assault, expressed the regret felt by his client, who, by the artful designing of a wicked woman, had been induced to do what he ought not to have done, i.e. to kiss her. He then reviewed the evidence for the prosecution, and held that the whole affair was an attempt to extort money from Mr. Wright. Mr. Bartlett laid much stress on the discrepancies between *Walters*’ evidence and that of his wife regarding her complaints to him of other people who had taken liberties with her. With respect to the compounding of the case his client had absolutely refused from the first to be a party to such a proceeding, and concluded by re-asserting that the affair had been a plant upon Mr. Wright, caused by his imprudent and, to some extent, improper conduct.

Thomas Lewis, inspector of nuisances, was then called by Mr. Bartlett. He said that about the second week of April last he was

at Portobello looking after lodging houses, and called early in the morning at *Walters's* for a glass of ale. While he was drinking it Mrs. Walters sat herself down in his lap, and asked him to take a knot out of her hair. He did so, and combed it, and afterwards tied it up again. He then put his arm round her neck and gave her a kiss. She did not resent it. She next invited witness upstairs to look at a lodger's bed, but, having heard something about her, he refused to go, thinking he had already gone too far on improper ground. Mr. Lewis then described the negotiations that had taken place between him and *Walters* and his wife, with respect to compromising the charge. He said he took these steps without the concurrence of Mr. Wright, and against his will. They agreed to take £5, and Mrs. Walters said she had got £7 from a man for making up a similar case. Mrs. Walters also said that Mr. Wright had been carrying it on for three months past. This concluded the case.

The Chairman immediately said the Bench had made up their minds how they should dispose of the case, and looking at the extraordinary nature of the evidence which had been adduced they did not conceive it would warrant them in sending the case to a jury, or in summarily adjudicating upon it, and therefore the defendant would be discharged."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/1/1861 - Notice

"In the Matter of the Petition of *Enoch Walters*, now and for fifteen days last past residing in lodgings in High-street, Portobello, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Journeyman Locksmith, previously of the GENERAL HAVELOCK, Portobello aforesaid, Publican, Brewer, and Retailer of Beer, Licensed to sell Tobacco, and Journeyman Locksmith, previously of the PLOUGH INN, Buggen's-lane, Wednesfield Heath, in the county of Stafford, a Licensed Victualler, and occasionally employed as a Journeyman Locksmith; notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, at Wolverhampton, acting in the matter of this Petition will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on February the 22nd day of next, at nine o'clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.

Dated this 11th day of January, 1861.

James Walker, Attorney, Wolverhampton.

C. G. Megevan, High Bailiff."

GEORGE

9, Ann Street, (St. Ann Street), (10, St. Anns Road), Spring Bank, (Little London), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Henry Powell Tipper [1856] – **1860**);

George Farley (**1860** – []

Henry Powell Tipper [1861] – **1875**);

James Turner (**1875**);

Thomas Darby (**1875** – [1881]

McDonald [1881]

Joseph Nottingham (**1885** – []

William King (**1887** – []

Mark Hughes [1891] – [1892]

Mrs. Jane Hughes [1896]

George Roberts [1908] – [1912]

Edward Taylor [1916]

Mrs. Esther Taylor [1921]

NOTES

St. Anns Road [1871]

9, Ann Street [1881]

10, St. Anns Road [1891]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1856

"Applications for new licenses. There were fourteen applications altogether for licenses to sell spirits – all from beershop keepers – only four of which were granted by the Magistrates.

Mr. Hayes applied for a license for *Henry Powell Tipper*, GEORGE INN, St. Ann Street, Willenhall. He said the claim was unopposed; no license had been granted for some years, although the population had greatly increased; the certificate was signed

by the clergyman, the surveyor to the Board of Health, and other respectable persons; the nearest licensed house was the SARACENS HEAD, a distance of 500 yards; and there never had been a complaint against *Tipper* during the time that he had kept the GEORGE as a beershop.

The application was granted.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/7/1860 - Notice

“Insolvent Debtor, to be heard before the Judge of the County Court of Staffordshire, at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on the 24th day of July, 1860, at the hour of 11 o’clock in the forenoon.

Henry Powell Tipper, lately lodging in Gibbet Lane, Bilston, in the county of Stafford, in no business or occupation; previously of Willenhall, in the said county of Stafford, Iron Manufacturer and Licensed Victualler; previously of the same place, Roll Turner and Licensed Victualler; previously of the same place, Roll Turner and Licensed Beer Retailer; and formerly of the same place, Roll Turner only.

J. H. Moore, Attorney for the said Insolvent, Walsall.”

1861 Census

St. Ann Street

[1] *Henry P. Tipper* (36), public house, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Catherine Tipper (40), wife, born Brewwood;

[3] Ann Sophia Darby (11), niece, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Margaratt Cravan (21), servant, born Ireland:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

“Mr. Thurstans next applied for a license to the SPRING VALE TAVERN, in Ann-street, Willenhall, kept by Mr. Silas Tonks. Since 1856, he said, the population had increased by upwards of 600, and within an area of a few acres the number of inhabitants was 1,235. A number of streets in this locality were without public-house accommodation, and his client’s house was eligibly situated for supplying the wants of the dwellers in those streets.

Mr. Thurstans also applied for a license on the part of Mr. Brown, the owner of a house in Spring vale-street, and said that all the remarks he had made in support of Tonk’s application would apply with equal force to that of Mr. Brown. He submitted that the public convenience called for the granting of a license in one of the cases.

Mr. Underhill opposed Mr. Tonks’s application on the part of Mr. Putnam, of the SARACENS HEAD, and Mr. *Tipper*, of the GEORGE. He said the house at present occupied by the applicant was a nuisance to the neighbours, and a fatal objection to the application was that the house in respect of which the application was that the house was in an unfinished state. He contended that there was no occasion for even one additional license in the locality. The Bench declined to entertain either application.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

“At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division, Seisdon North, held yesterday.

Mr. Thurstans supported the application of Mr. Tonks; Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mr. *Tipper*, of the GEORGE INN, and Mr. Putnam, of the SARACENS HEAD. On behalf of the applicant, Mr. Thurstans spoke of the increase in the population in the locality where his client’s house was situated, and also produced a certificate testifying that he was a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license. Mr. Thurstans also applied on behalf of Thomas Brown, of the BIRD IN HAND, situated in the same street as the last applicant’s house. This house was stated to be large and newly erected. He said he hardly expected that both the applications would be granted; but he would leave it with the Bench to decide which of the premises were most eligible. Mr. Underhill opposed as before, and stated that he had taken the precaution to inquire as to the applicant’s character from Inspector Thompson, with the view of ascertaining in what way he had conducted his house. Mr. Thurstans objected to any statement being made unless it was afterwards proved in evidence. After some other remarks had been made, Mr. Underhill expressed his willingness to leave the matter in the hands of the magistrates, when they had seen Inspector Thompson and heard what he had to say upon the subject.”

Henry Powell Tipper was also an engineer and roll turner. [1864], [1865]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, in this county, was held on Friday, at the County Magistrates’ Room, Bilston Street. The Magistrates on the Bench were H. Hill, J. Perks, S. Cartwright, and B. Hicklin, Esqs.

Mr. Underhill said he had now to apply on behalf of a person named Silas Tonks for a license to the house occupied by him at Spring Bank, Willenhall, which was one of the most thriving and rapidly increasing neighbourhoods in Willenhall. The application, he understood, was to be opposed by his friend, Mr. Young, on behalf of a rival publican, chiefly on the ground of the character of his client. Now, he would at once admit that some seven years ago his client was summoned twice in one year for offences against the tenor of his license as a beerhouse keeper. For the first offence he was fined 10s and costs, and in the second instance the charge could not be sustained. But he submitted that the lapse of time which had taken place since then, and the fact that Mr. Tonks had conducted his house so satisfactorily that no further charge had been preferred against him, was sufficient to redeem any loss of character he had sustained by some slight offence committed seven years ago. In addition to this, he had a letter, which he would read to the Bench, from the minister of St. Ann’s, the Rev. C. B. Twiss. (The letter was which was rather a lengthy one, was to the effect that the writer having heard it reported several times that Mr. Tonks kept a disorderly house, al-

though he (the writer) did not approve of public houses, he considered it only just, between man and man, for him to state that Mr. Tonks had not conducted his house in any more disorderly a manner than other houses of a similar character in the trade.) Now when a gentleman, in the position of Mr. Twiss, went out of his way like that to do what he felt was simply an act of duty to a parishioner, he thought that should weigh very strongly with the Bench in considering the application, and also as a reply to anything might be urged against the character of his client by those opposed to him.

Mr. Young opposed the application on behalf of two neighbouring publicans, Mr. Putnam and Mr. *Tipper*. In reply to Mr. Underhill's remarks he would say that his friend had not told the whole of the truth with regard to his client's character, because the fact was that instead of only being summoned twice and fined once, he had also been fined twice in the year 1857 – once for permitting gambling, and once for keeping open at unlawful hours on a Sunday. He thought that was sufficient to decide the Magistrates in saying that he did not possess such a character as would justify their entrusting him with a license. Even the letter from the Rev. C. B. Twiss – about which so much had been said – did not show that Tonks did not keep a disorderly house, the writer contenting himself by stating that his house was not conducted 'more disorderly' than others in its class. He contended that the two licensed houses kept by Mr. *Tipper* and Mr. Putnam, both within a very short distance of the one occupied by Mr. Tonks supplied all the accommodation the neighbourhood required. If further proof were needed it was found in the fact, a very significant one, that another beerhouse, opposite the very church of which Mr. Twiss was incumbent, had been closed within the last six weeks. Mr. Hill after conferring with his brother Magistrates, said all the applications were refused."

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1869

"The annual licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton division of the county of Stafford was held yesterday.....

The applications for new spirit licenses were then considered.....

Mr. Langman requested a license for the SPRING VALE TAVERN, Spring Vale Street, Willenhall. The premises belonged to the applicant, who had kept the house for the last eight years without any offence against the tenour of his license. Mr. Thurstans objected to the application, for Mr. *Tipper*, GEORGE INN, and Mr. Putnam, SARACENS HEAD. The application had been made for several years in succession, and there was no need of additional accommodation. The request was refused, the Magistrates remarking that no circumstances had been stated which was not urged last year."

1871 Census

St. Anns Road

[1] *Henry P. Tipper* (43), roll turner and victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Catherine Tipper (52), wife, born Brewwood;

[3] Jane Weaver (6), niece, scholar, born Bilston;

[4] Sophia Vawer (16), general servant, born Bristol:

Midland Examiner 2/10/1875

"On the application of Mr. R. A. Willcock, the license of the GEORGE INN, Ann Street, Little London, Willenhall, was extended from a six days to a seven days license, and permanently transferred from *James Turner* to *Thomas Darby*."

Birmingham Daily Post 19/4/1876

"Yesterday, in the Willenhall Police Court, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and Mr. R. D. Gough, *Thomas Darby*, the landlord of the GEORGE INN, Spring Bank, Willenhall, was charged with being, on the evening of Tuesday, the 11th inst, drunk upon his own premises. Mr. Barrow, of Wolverhampton, appeared for the defendant.

According to the evidence of Police-constable H. Newman, on the evening in question he went, in company with Police-constable Jeffery, to the house of the defendant, being attracted thereto by the sounds of a piano and a woman dancing in the back parlour. He thought the woman was intoxicated, and went to the window of the parlour in question, and upon looking through found his suspicions were not verified, and that the woman was sober. He was proceeding with Jeffery back again through the passage into the street, when the landlord came out of the kitchen, and asked what was the matter, and he declined to answer or tell him, 'because he was drunk.' In cross-examination by Mr. Barrows, the witness said he was sure the defendant was drunk, because he stuttered, and wished to say something which he could not. He also staggered. He and his fellow-constable were only in the house three minutes altogether, but he was quite sure the landlord was drunk.

Police-constable Jeffery was called to corroborate the evidence of his companion.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Barrow now submitted that the information must be dismissed, on the ground that the Legislature never contemplated that a landlord should be convicted for an offence of this character upon his own premises and he quoted, in support of this contention, the opinion of Mr. Newton, the opinion of Mr. Pattison in his recent work upon the Licensing Act, and also several cases cited in the recent edition of Stone's 'Justices' Manual.'

The magistrates, after consulting their clerk, declined to stop the case at this stage; whereupon Mr. Barrow said that it must not be thought that he (Mr. Barrow) had any desire to shield his client by any technical objection, because he had a most complete answer to the facts, and could show beyond all question that the landlord was sober. He then called the defendant and his wife and a number of other witnesses to support that view.

The Chairman said that although it would appear that the law was, as stated by Mr. Barrow, that the licensed victualler would be entitled to get drunk upon his own premises, still the Bench should not decide the question upon that issue; but being of the opinion that neither of the police officers had an opportunity of forming a correct judgement of the sobriety of the landlord (they having been only three minutes upon the premises), they had come to the conclusion to dismiss the summons."

1881 Census

9, Ann Street

- [1] *Thomas Darby* (53), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Emma Darby* (67), wife, born Shrewsbury;
- [3] *Samuel Darby* (24), son, saddle maker, born Walsall;
- [4] *John Darby* (21), son, iron worker, born Walsall;
- [5] *Joyce Darby* (19), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Florence Darby* (11), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Job Darby* (8), son, born Walsall:

County Express 12/11/1881

“Sale of Reversionary Interests in Valuable Freehold and Copyhold Properties and Personal Estate, at Wednesfield and Willenhall, near Wolverhampton.

Messrs. Insull and Son have received instructions from the Mortgagee to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Macdonald*, the GEORGE HOTEL, Willenhall, on Tuesday, the 15th day of November next, at seven o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read.

Two Eighth-Shares of and in the following Properties.

Four well-built Dwelling Houses and Public House, known by the Sign of the TRUE BRITON, situate New Road, Willenhall, in the occupation of Messrs. Hilton, Page, Foster, Barker, and Salt, producing at low rentals £85 per annum.....”

Darlaston Weekly Times 19/1/1884

“It is pleasing to record again the meeting of those employed on the Willenhall tramway, to enjoy their annual treat, which took place on Thursday at the GEORGE INN, Willenhall, secured through the liberality of the passengers giving to a fund. After enjoying the excellent repast, Mr. Coleman was voted to the chair, and Mr. Addis to the vice-chair. The chairman, in an able speech, spoke of the generosity of the passengers, and said it was a credit to the drivers and conductors on the road; if they were not civil and obliging to passengers they would not have come forward and given money for such a good evening's enjoyment, and stated that he was extremely glad to see that the efforts of the men were so highly appreciated.....”

1891 Census

10, St. Anns Road

- [1] *Mark Hughes* (47), licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] *Jane Hughes* (42), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Edwin Hughes* (17), son, iron polisher, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Florence Hughes* (15), daughter, housemaid, born Willenhall;
- [5] *John F. Hughes* (12), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Arthur Hughes* (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Earnest A. Hughes* (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Horace Hughes* (3), son, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/2/1926

“Wolverhampton County Licensing Justices.....

Considerable opposition was forthcoming to an application by Messrs. Butler and Co. for the transfer of the GEORGE INN, Willenhall, to Church Road, Penn Fields. The application was refused, as it was last year.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/4/1928

“Mr. Tom B. Adams (chairman) presided at a meeting of the County Licensing Committee held at the Shirehall, Stafford. William Lowe (estate manager to W. Butler & Co, Ltd) applied for the confirmation of the removal of the full license of the GEORGE INN, Willenhall, to premises in Stringes Lane, Willenhall, now licensed for the sale of beer only. It was stated that the area to which it was proposed to take the license was being developed rapidly. The nearest full licensed house was 400 yards away. If the application were granted, it was proposed to surrender two off licenses. Structural alterations would also be carried out to the existing premises to meet the wishes of the justices,

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. Lowe said an undertaking would be given that the premises to be given up would not be used for club purposes within a period of four years. The application was granted.”

Closed.

GEORGE AND CROWN

94, Bilston Road (Bilston Street) / Moseley Road, (Throttle Goose lane), (Mount Pleasant), (Willenhall Road), Mabbs Bank, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1967]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.
Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

Mrs. Grainger [1845]
Job Hickman [1849] – **1850**);
Thomas Edwin Breakwell (**1850 – 1852**);
Joseph Shore (**1852 – 1870**);
Benjamin Guy (**1870 – [1874]**)
Elisha Pickering [1880] – [1881]
William Bailey [1891] – [1896]
Elijah Niblett [1899] – [1908]
Isaac Bissell [1911] – [1913]
Harry Lyndon [1916] – [1921]
Bob Woolley [1920] – **1923**)
Job Dooley [1932] – [1941]
Ellen Dooley [1946]
R Homfray [1988] – [1989]
Paul Gill [] – **1995**);
Seamus Munnelly (**1995 – []**)
Paul L Blunt [2002]
Anne Louise Blunt [2005]

NOTES

Willenhall Road [1849]
Mount Pleasant, Bilston [1854]
Throttle Goose Lane [1860], [1861], [1862], [1868], [1891]
Bilston Street [1873]
2, Moseley Hole Lane [1881]
Mabbs Bank [1874], [1880], [1904]
Moseley Road [1911]

It was situated at the junction of the Darlaston, Bilston, Willenhall and Moseley roads.

It was known locally as “Niblett’s”.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/8/1845 - Advert

“Wheat and Barley Crops, growing upon lands situate at Bunkers Hill, in the parish of Willenhall.

To be Sold by Auction, by W. Aston, on Monday, August 18, 1845, at three o’clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mrs. Grainger, known by the sign of the GEORGE AND CROWN, situate in the road leading from Willenhall to Bilston.

The following capital Crops of Wheat and Barley, growing upon the undermentioned pieces of land.

Lot I. Beebys Piece, wheat, containing 6a 2r 36p.

Lot II. The Engine Piece, wheat, containing 8a 0r 39p.

Lot III. The opts Piece, wheat, containing 5a 0r 0p.

Lot IV. The Long Piece, barley, containing 8a 0r 36p.

N.B. The straw to go off.

Mr. Thomas Yates, of Bunkers Hill, will show the crops; and any further information may be obtained of the Auctioneer, North Street, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/10/1849 - Advert

“Found, on Friday last, at Willenhall, a Pointer Dog. Any person claiming the same may have him again by paying expenses on application to Mr. Job Hickman, GEORGE AND CROWN, Willenhall Road, near Bilston”

Joseph Shore = Joseph Shaw

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/11/1854

“Mrs. Ann Watson, wife of Mr. Watson, keeper of the spirit vaults, late the GOLDEN CUP, Cock Street, appeared to answer a summons charging her with knowingly and wilfully uttering two base crown pieces to *Joseph Shore*, of Willenhall. Mr. *Shore*, who is a licensed victualler, stated that last night, at about half-past eight o’clock, he went with a friend into Mr. Watson’s liquor shop, in Cock Street; they had two glasses of ale and a biscuit, which came to 5d. He paid for it with a sovereign, and Mrs. Watson gave him the change. It consisted of two crown pieces, three half-crowns, and smaller silver. He had occasion to call at two or three public houses, and at them he changed some of the smaller silver to pay for what he had. In the end he offered the two crown pieces, and it was then discovered that they were bad. He had about him only a sovereign and a sixpence, when he went into Mr. Watson’s liquor shop, and he was confident that the bad crown pieces were those he received from Mrs. Watson. Mrs. Watson said she remembered giving change to Mr. *Shore*, and that she gave him two crown pieces, but the money, she was sure, was good; they were very particular with the silver they took; they took none without examination, and if she had had any bad crown pieces she must have known it, for she looked at the money in the course of the day. The crown pieces she gave to Mr. *Shore* had been taken by the barmaid, Sarah Davies.

Sarah Davies said she took two crown pieces in Mr. Watson’s liquor shop, in the course of the day; one in the morning and one in the afternoon; she examined them, sounded them, and was sure they were good; she recollected the dates, for one of them had fallen down; they were dated 1816 and 1819; the crown pieces produced were not those she had taken; she was sure of it; she could tell this by their feel and appearance.

The counterfeit crowns were both dated 1819, and seemingly from the same mould; they were good imitations, and rang well, but were light.

Mr. Leigh, magistrate, said the charge must be dismissed; it was that Mrs. Watson had uttered the two crown pieces knowing them to be counterfeit, and this did not appear. The case was one, should the complainant think proper to proceed, for the County Court. The coins were so far good on the face of them that either party might have received them without knowing them to be bad.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/12/1855

“Sarah Fellows, a young girl of eighteen, was on Thursday charged, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq, with stealing the sum of £6 10s, the property of Mr. *Joseph Shore*, the landlord of the GEORGE AND CROWN INN, Bilston Road. The prisoner had been in the service of the prosecutor for five weeks, during which period sums of money, which Mr. *Shore* supposed had gone for housekeeping expenses, had been missed. On Tuesday morning the prosecutor wanted change, went to an upper room, and found his cash-box open, and £6 10s gone. He had left his keys shortly before in the room. Two other keys, which would open the till, had been missed for some time, and were given up by the prisoner to Police Constable Farmer, when she acknowledged robbing her master, and said, ‘She had expended a portion of the proceeds in dress and suck’, (sweet stuff). A part of the money, with a bottle of spirits, was discovered in the prisoner’s bed, and she pointed out the rest of the money concealed in the privy. The prosecutor solicited mercy, but the Bench said they had no discretion in the matter, as it was a theft by a servant, and not a simple larceny, and the case was sent for trial. The prosecutor made a statement which induced the inference that the prisoner was acting under the influence of a male associate. Mr. Fisher said it was a very deplorable case, but it was gratifying to find the girl was not a hardened offender, as was proved by her free admission of guilt.”

1861 Census

Throttle Goose Lane

- [1] *Joseph Shore* (38), victualler, born Shropshire;
- [2] Ann Shore (29), wife, born Essington, Staffordshire;
- [3] John Shore (13), son, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [4] Maria Shore (5), daughter, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [5] Ann Shore (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Margaret Shore (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] Emma Chalender (18), general servant, born Wednesfield:

Benjamin Guy was also a coal master. [1872]

1881 Census

2, Moseley Hole Lane – Public House

- [1] *Elisha Pickering* (42), contractor and licensed victualler, born Princes End;
- [2] Elizabeth Pickering (38), wife, born Dunstone, Staffordshire;
- [3] William Pickering (17), son, solicitor’s clerk, born Bilston;
- [4] Ernest Pickering (15), son, caster, born Bilston;
- [5] Minnie Pickering (11), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;
- [6] Leonard Pickering (9), son, scholar, born Bilston;
- [7] Edith Pickering (7), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;
- [8] Ellen Pickering (3), daughter, born Bilston;
- [9] Elizabeth Evans (22) domestic servant, born Bilston:

1891 Census

Throttle Goose Lane – CROWN INN

- [1] *William Bailey* (68), colliery proprietor, born West Felson, Shropshire;

- [2] Margaret Bailey (65), wife, born Wryson (?), Shropshire;
[3] Margaret Bailey (13), granddaughter, general servant, born Willenhall:

William Bailey was also a chartermaster. [1892]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/7/1899

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions [28/6] William Hill (23), miner, alias Wheeler imprisoned for 6 months for breaking the leg of *Elijah Niblett* on April 1st.”

1901 Census

Mabbs Bank

- [1] *Elijah Niblett* (35), publican, born Bradley;
[2] Clara Niblett (27), wife, born Darlaston;
[3] Garnett R. Ruffill (13), nephew, born Smethwick;
[4] Clara Severn (16), general servant, born Darlaston:

Elijah Niblett died in the 1st quarter of 1932, aged 66.

1911 Census

Moseley Road – GEORGE AND CROWN INN

- [1] *Isaac Bissell* (31), builder’s foreman, born Princes End;
[2] Clara Maria Bissell (31), wife, married 6 years, born Portobello;
[3] Roland Noel Bissell (5), son, born Saltley, Warwickshire;
[4] Norman Bissell (2), son, born Saltley, Warwickshire;
[5] Kathleen Lucy Bissell (1 month), daughter, born Willenhall;
[6] Lucy Maria Brass (26), sister, born Portobello:

Bob Woolley was married to Louisa Harrison.

1939 Register

Bilston Road – GEORGE AND CROWN (3 of 4)

- [1] *Job Dooley*, date of birth 31/7/1872, licensee, married;
[2] *Ellen Dooley*, dob 16/7/1872, bar general, married;
[3] Alfred Whale, dob 7/10/1869, carpenter, married;

1942 Probate

“*Job Dooley*, of the GEORGE AND CROWN INN, Bilston Road, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 11 July 1941 at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton. Probate Birmingham 25 April to *Ellen Dooley*, widow. Effects £1,087 9s 3d.”

1947 Probate

“*Ellen Dooley*, of GEORGE AND CROWN, Bilston Road, Willenhall, Staffordshire, widow, died 21 October 1946. Probate Birmingham 12 July to Thomas Edward Dooley, shearer. Effects £2,184 7s 10d.”

Closed

It was demolished.

It was replaced by a new pub.

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1977

“Thousands of Midland drinkers will be forced to change their drinking habits next year – because of a Government report. Three major breweries are to swop 437 pubs – leaving drinkers to choose between their favourite public house or their favourite beer. The deal was announced yesterday by Ansells, owned by Allied Breweries, Mitchells and Butlers, owned by Bass Charrington, and Courage. The move, involving public houses valued at £11,000,000, was prompted by a Monopolies Commission report seven years ago which claimed that breweries had too much of a stranglehold in certain towns and cities Tenants and managers are being given the opportunity to stay on new terms or change to another establishment. Managers can also opt for voluntary redundancy

M & B managed houses transferred to Ansells

GEORGE AND CROWN, Bilston Road, Willenhall.”

Ansells Advert 17/2/1994

“This large main road site offers an excellent leasing opportunity, particularly on the catering side. Comprising a bar, lounge, kitchen and three bedroomed living accommodation”

[2007]

Closed

It became a Chinese restaurant in 2008.

GEORGE AND DRAGON

Cannon Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1920]

LICENSEES

Saunders [1920]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

South Staffordshire Times 14/2/1920

“County Licensing Sessions.....

Superintendent Higgs, in his report, stated that the licensing justices had visited the Willenhall district, and viewed certain houses under the Redundancy Act, and recommended the following be scheduled, and heard at the adjourned Licensing Sessions:

GEORGE AND DRAGON, Cannon Street; HADDONS Beerhouse, Bray Street; BUTCHERS ARMS, Wolverhampton Street; and the BEEHIVE, Little London.”

South Staffordshire Times 6/3/1920

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

In the case of the BEEHIVE, Little London, Willenhall, which was recommended to be scheduled on the grounds there were several other beerhouses in the immediate neighbourhood, that the trade was small, and that the accommodation was not up to modern requirements, Mr. Willes opposed the recommendation on behalf of the owners, Banks Brewery Company, Limited, and the tenant, Mr. Kimberley, and contended that the house was needed for regular trade and for the use of a friendly society, and that the structural condition had not been complained of, the house being an ‘ante- ‘69’ house.

Mr. C. N. Wright appeared to oppose a similar application in the case of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Cannon Street, Willenhall. PS Tucker had reported the house on grounds that of the five houses within 130 yards this was in the worst structural condition. The house tenanted by licensee *Saunders*, is the property of Butlers Brewery.”

South Staffordshire Times 17/7/1920

“The following licenses were refused at the principal meeting of the compensation authority for the county held at Stafford on Thursday.....

and the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/12/1920

“An adjourned supplemental meeting of the County Licensing Committee, acting as Compensation Authority, was held at the County Buildings, Stafford, on Saturday. Lord Hatherton presiding.

The following sums were approved by the Committee as compensation cases where the licenses have not been renewed.....

GEORGE AND DRAGON, Willenhall, beerhouse, ante 1869, £2,000.....”

South Staffordshire Times 8/1/1921

“The Stafford County Licensing Committee on Tuesday reported having fixed compensation for 17 houses. Among these are HADDON’S Beerhouse, Willenhall, £2,000; and the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Willenhall.”

Check Chapel Green.

GEORGE AND DRAGON

1, Chapel Green, King Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Storer* [1869]
William Storum* [] – 1870);
Joseph Clay (1870 – 1877);
Thomas Garrington (1877 – [1881]
William Perrens [1891] – [1908]
Mrs. Susanne A Perrens [1911] – [1912]
Charles Henry Saunders [1915]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

William Storer, GEORGE AND DRAGON, Willenhall, 2s 6d and costs.”

* probably the same person

1871 Census

King Street

- [1] *Joseph Clay* (35), scrap dealer, born Coventry;
- [2] Mary A. Clay (33), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Sarah Clay (11), daughter, scholar, born Darlaston;
- [4] William Clay (10), son, scholar, born Darlaston;
- [5] Agnes Clay (4), daughter, scholar, born Darlaston;
- [6] Albert Clay (2), son, born Darlaston;
- [7] Mary A. Clay (1 month), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] Charles Wilson (21), nephew, weaver (silk), born Coventry;
- [9] Elizabeth Hoof (14), niece, scholar, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/7/1876

“*Joseph Clay*, beerseller, was summoned for permitting drunkenness upon his licensed premises. Police-sergt. Ainsworth proved the offence, which was committed on the 4th inst, and the defendant was fined £1 and costs, the Bench ordering the conviction be recorded on his certificate.”

1881 Census

1, Chapel Green – GEORGE AND DRAGON

- [1] *Thomas Garrington* (56), innkeeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Fanny Garrington (45), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Reginald Beckett (18), stepson, padlock smith, born Willenhall;
- [4] Fanny Beckett (15), stepdaughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Henry Beckett (13), stepson, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Thomas Garrington (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] William Garrington (54), brother, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [8] Jane Ridling (66), friend, stay maker, born Wolverhampton:

Evening Express 10/10/1881 - Advert

“Wanted, an experienced Pawnbroker’s Assistant.
Apply, GEORGE AND DRAGON, King Street, Willenhall.”

Evening Express 25/10/1881

“*Thomas Garrington*, of the DRAGON INN, King Street, Willenhall, was charged with permitting drunkenness, and Alfred Whitehouse, of the same street, was charged with being drunk on the premises on the night of the 15th inst. Mr. G. Vaughan represented *Garrington*, and in defence said Whitehouse only had one pint of fourpenny in the house, but being a person who was affected in the head it had overcome him. The case against the landlord was dismissed, and Whitehouse was fined 5s and costs.”

1891 Census

1, Chapel Green – GEORGE AND DRAGON

- [1] *William Perrens* (57), lock maker and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Susannah Perrens (50), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Eliza Perrens (22), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Mary Saunders (7), grandchild, born Willenhall;
- [5] Amos Perrens (61), boarder, widower, locksmith, born Willenhall:

William Perrens was also a rim and dead-lock manufacturer. [1892], [1904]

1901 Census

1, Chapel Green – GEORGE AND DRAGON

- [1] *William Perrens* (67), locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [2] Susannah Perrens (60), wife, manageress of public, born Willenhall;
- [3] Mary Saunders (17), granddaughter, domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [4] Amelia Perrens (14), granddaughter, domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [5] Edith Dishley (8), granddaughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Phoebe Lander (16), visitor, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

1, Chapel Green

- [1] *Susan A. Perrens* (67), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Charles R. Sanders (49), son in law, locksmith (rim), born Willenhall;
- [3] Matilda Sanders (46), daughter, married 29 years, born Willenhall;
- [4] Lucy Sanders (20), granddaughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Bertie Sanders (14), grandson, baker’s assistant, born Willenhall:

Mrs. *Susanne Perrens*, beer retailer, 1, Chapel Green. [1912]

Walsall Observer 13/3/1915

“At the Police Court, on Monday, before Messrs. J. H. James and G. A. Squire, *Charles Henry Saunders*, licensee of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Chapel Green, Willenhall, was summoned for allowing children under the age of 14 on his licensed premises.

Sergeant Evans visited the house at 10.15 on the night of February 22, and saw two grandchildren of the licensee in the top room watching two customers playing cards.

Mr. Turton, who defended, admitted the facts, but said the children being grandchildren, the licensee found it difficult to keep them under strict observation at all times.

The Bench considered it a serious matter for young children to be allowed on licensed premises, but thought justice in this particular case would be met by the defendant paying the costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/2/1916

“Wolverhampton County Licensing Sessions were held yesterday, Sir Charles Mander, Bart., presiding.

Reporting on the Willenhall division, Superintendent Rowbotham said there was one license to every 212 persons. There was a decrease of 33 males and an increase of two females convicted compared with the preceding year. Superintendent Moss reported on the Tettenhall division that 57 males and 4 females were convicted of drunkenness, compared with 103 males and 10 females in the previous year.

Mr. T. B. Adams (magistrate) remarked that there had been an attempt to evade the Board of Control regulations by reducing the price of beer. The bench would certainly view in a serious light such evasion of the spirit of the Order. It was not stopping the ‘long pull’ if licensed victuallers were going to reduce the price of beer.

The TURF TAVERN, Penn Common, and the BOAT INN, Swindon, were referred to the compensation authority; while the following licenses against which formal objections had been made by the police were renewed: COCK INN, Heath Town; BULL INN; Codsall; GRAPES, Willenhall; GEORGE AND DRAGON, Willenhall; and the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall.

Superintendent Rowbotham informed the bench that in the Willenhall and Bilston districts all the automatic gaming machines had been removed.”

Field Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[2009]

[2016]

GOUGHS ARMS

20, (1), High Street (Bilston Road) / New Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Cannock Brewery Company [1882]

LICENSEES

Benjamin Gosling [1845]
James Siddons [1849] – **1876**;
Ellen Hooke (**1876 – 1877**);
William Wellings (**1877**);
Arthur Scattergood (**1877** – []
William Collumbine [] – **1879**;
Thomas Bratt (**1879 – 1881**);
Samuel Careless (**1881**);
Thomas Charles Cartwright (**1881** – []
Samuel Careless [1883]
John Griffiths [1891] – [1892]
W H Matthews [1896]
Mrs. Mary L Cornfield [1901]
Edward James Mallin [1908] – [1911]
Mrs. Ellen Lloyd [1912] – [1916]
George Ephraim Cash [1921] – [1932]
Mrs. Lydia Cash [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

1, High Street [1871]
20, High Street [1861], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]

GOUGHS ARMS TAVERN [1850]
GOUGH ARMS [1940]

It was known locally as “The Grid”.

James Siddons = James Seddon = James Siddens

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/12/1849

“James Fowke, Robert Fox, and Joseph Pardou, were charged with assaulting Samuel Moore, police officer, at the GOUGHS ARMS, Portobello, on Saturday night last. There was a ‘row’ in the house, and the policeman was sent to quell it, when he was

assaulted by Fox, who struck and kicked him, the other prisoners aiding in the assault, although not so actively concerned in it. James Wardle and Benjamin Guy corroborated the policeman's testimony, and the defendants were each ordered to pay a fine of £3, in default to be imprisoned two months."

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *James Siddons* (48), widower, licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] John Hateley (48), father in law, gentleman, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Mary Dorote (24), house servant, born Oookengates [**Oakengates**], Shropshire;
- [4] Hannah Hartetua (15), visitor, born Eaton, Warwickshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

"The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Mr. Pinchard applied for Mr. W. Perry, of the RED LION, Brickkiln Street, Portobello, stating in the course of his remarks, that the rent of the house was £31 a year, and the number of houses in that locality had very much increased.

Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mr. George Davis, in the same street. He stated that there were 120 houses already inhabited, that his client's house cost £800 and that it afforded more accommodation than that of Mr. Perry. He handed in a testimonial signed by several of the inhabitants and also a letter from the Rev. T. W. Fletcher who observed that in his opinion no candidate from the district had greater claims or was more worthy of being trusted with a license.

Mr. Hayes opposed both applications on behalf of Mr. Fisher, landlord of the BIRD IN HAND, and of Mr. *Siddons*, of the GOUGHS ARMS, Portobello. There were only 1,039 houses in that part of Portobello, and the number of houses in the entire district of St. Stephen, which went up to the Market Place, in Willenhall, was 2,826.

Mr. Underhill replied, stating that for every thousand inhabitants there was only one licensed house. The district had been increasing for the last few years. Mr. Pinchard also replied, observing that he thought other innkeepers ought to act upon the principle of 'Live and let live.'

The Magistrates, after some consideration, refused both applications."

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/7/1853

"At Portobello, on Tuesday last, the Good Samaritan Female Friendly Society commemorated an anniversary by a dinner at the GOUGHS ARMS. There are about forty-five members in the society. Mr. Froggatt is the surgeon."

1861 Census

20, High Street – GOUGHS ARMS

- [1] *James Siddons* (60), widower, victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] John Hooke (35), son in law, assistant, born Leicester;
- [3] Ellen Hooke (33), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] William Hooke (10), grandson, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Eliza Hooke (13), granddaughter, scholar, born Brim Hill Top, Staffordshire;
- [6] Eliza Hartland (31), daughter, visitor, born West Bromwich;
- [7] William Hartland (13), grandson, visitor, born West Bromwich;
- [8] John James Hartland (10), grandson, visitor, born West Bromwich;
- [9] Eliza Hartland (8), granddaughter, visitor, born West Bromwich;
- [10] Catherine Hartland (3), granddaughter, visitor, born West Bromwich;
- [11] Anne Dunn (27), house maid, born Dudley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/11/1869 - Advert

"To Let, at Portobello, a Cottage, with Shop and Shedding, suitable for Stabling, Cow-house, or Horse Corn Trade. Apply, Mr. *James Siddons*, GOUGH ARMS, Portobello."

1871 Census

1, High Street

- [1] *James Siddons* (70), widower, licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Ellen Hook (40), daughter, widow, born West Bromwich;
- [3] William S. Hook (20), grandson, draper's assistant, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Kate Hartland (13), granddaughter, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Maria Jones (20), general servant, born Toll End:

James Siddons died in the 4th quarter of 1875.

Midland Examiner 26/2/1876

"At the County Petty Sessions, on Monday, the following licenses were transferred.....

GOUGH ARMS INN, High Street, Portobello, from *James Siddons* to *Ellen Hooke*, as his trustee and executrix."

1877 Probate

“The Will of *Ellen Hooke*, late of Portobello, in the Township of Willenhall, in the Parish of Wolverhampton, in the County of Stafford, Widow, who died 9 January 1877 at Portobello, was proved at Lichfield by the Reverend Thomas Woodcock Fletcher of Willenhall, Clerk, and Richard Andrew Harper of Bilston, in the said County, Brewer, the Executors. Effects under £600.”

Thomas Bratt was also a poet – he wrote ‘Twenty Trees’, ‘The Battle Of Tettenhall’, ‘Vaccination’, ‘In Memory Of Lord Beaconsfield’.

He was born on 25th February 1852.

He married Lucy Maria (b.1852, Heath Town).

He was described as a greengrocer, 84 High Street, Portobello. [1900]

He died in 1929.

1881 Census

20, High Street, Portobello – GOUGHS ARMS

[1] *Thomas Bratt* (29), publican and mechanic, born Portobello;

[2] Lucy Maria Bratt (23), wife, born Heath Town;

[3] Johanna Bratt (3), daughter, scholar, born Portobello;

[4] Clara Maria Bratt (1), daughter, born Portobello;

[5] Sarah Southall (14), general servant, born Hepstone, Staffordshire:

Evening Express 4/7/1881

“Three of the magistrates, viz, W. H. Rogers, C. Boycott Wight, and Henry Loveridge, Esqrs, sat by adjournment from the morning to hear an application by Mr. Dallow, on behalf of *Samuel Careless*, of Portobello, for an interim transfer of the license of the GOUGHS ARMS, Portobello, Willenhall, from *Thomas Bratt* to himself.

Chief Superintendent Longden opposed the application.

Mr. Dallow, in support of the application, produced a certificate of *Careless*’s character signed by about 150 people, who knew him, and also a testimonial from the Rev. T. W. Fletcher, of Willenhall, in whose parish he has been residing.

Application granted.”

Evening Express 1/8/1881 - Advert

“Wanted, a clean, strong Girl, about 16.

Apply, Mrs. *S. Careless*, GOUGHS ARMS, Portobello.”

Evening Express 3/12/1881

“This (Saturday) afternoon, H. Brevitt, Esq, (deputy coroner), held an inquest at the GOUGHS ARMS INN, High Street, Portobello, respecting the death of Henry Benton (34), of Bridge Street, Portobello, who was killed on the railway on Friday morning. Mr. Charles Newey, stationmaster at Willenhall Bridge Station, appeared for the London and North Western Railway Company.

Sarah Price, wife of Job Price, miner, Bridge Street, Portobello, and sister to the deceased, spoke to the identity of the deceased from his clothing. He was otherwise unrecognizable owing to the shocking manner in which his head and face were cut by the train passing over him. His head was decapitated from his body. She said that he was a polisher by trade. She last saw him alive in her house on Thursday night last. He was generally a sober man. She next saw him again on Friday, after his death. Deceased, his wife, and two of their children were in her (witness’s) house on Thursday night. He had left three children, and the widow was near confinement. She had no reason to think that her brother committed suicide.

John Murphy, stone sawyer, No.1 Court, Church Lane, Wolverhampton, said that about twenty minutes to seven o’clock on Friday morning he was going down the Portobello embankment leading to the line, to go to work at the new luggage station, when he saw a man lying on his back on the four foot. He went and gave information to his fellow workmen. He and two other men returned to the spot. They found the head about five feet away from the body. They carried the head and body on to the embankment, and then fetched Police-constable Bealey. He afterwards found the deceased’s cap, breakfast tin, bottle, and food, tied up in a handkerchief, which was lying near the ditch close to the signal wire. They were about five feet away from the body.

The Coroner had great difficulty in obtaining information from the witness, who was evidently under the influence of drink, and before he concluded his evidence the Coroner, owing to his indecorous conduct, ordered him out of the room.

Alfred Burt, labourer, 2 Court, Merry Hill Street, Wolverhampton, said he also noticed the deceased on the line on Friday morning. He overtook Murphy on reaching the new goods station, and then with him and others returned and removed the body from the line. It was dark at the time, and after they fetched the policeman, they found the deceased’s head, cap, and other articles mentioned rather more than a foot from the body, and close to the signal wires. The brains were scattered about the rails.

Eliza Benton, widow of the deceased, said that he left home at about a quarter to seven o’clock on Friday morning, wishing her ‘Good morning’ as he went out of the house. He appeared as well as usual. He had been working at Walsall lately, and had gone thither by train from Willenhall Bridge Station. He had been in the best of spirits, and with the exception of being out of work eight or nine days before going to Walsall, he had plenty of work, and earned fair wages. She was fully satisfied that his death was entirely due to an accident. He had been a good husband to her, and a good father to his children.

Mr. Newey, the station master, said that the deceased had no right on the line. The first train that morning from his station to Walsall was 6.52. Between six and seven o’clock, three trains would pass the spot where deceased was found.

Police-constable Bailey said that no money was found in the deceased’s pockets.

Mr. Newey said that it did not seem possible that deceased was going by train, as no money was found on him. The Coroner said the money might have been shook out of his pockets, seeing that he was knocked about so much. Police-constable Bailey next gave evidence to being fetched to the deceased. From what he could learn, the deceased was met by a train, because he was knocked on to his back. The head was found about 4ft from the body. People had been in the habit of walking along the line, a track having been made by them, but whoever went along it were trespassers. Near the track, and four feet from the body, was the signal wire, which was one foot nine inches high. Near to that place was a notice board forbidding trespassers on the railway. There were no marks of violence on the body except a bruise on one of the shoulders. The tin bottle and handkerchief were almost under the signal wire. A portion of the deceased's head was still missing. Witness had found some broken skull bones on the line.

Mr. Newey said that on the morning in question he had no complaint from the driver of the passenger train of having passed over anything that morning; the other trains were both luggage, and did not stop at the station.

There was no other evidence.

The jury consulted in private for some time, and then sent for the Coroner, whom they told that several were in favour of an adjournment, to obtain further evidence. He said that there were certain things requiring explanation, and especially the circumstance of the cap, tin bottle, and handkerchief, being all found together. It was due to the public, and everybody concerned in the inquiry, that every doubt should be cleared up. Several jurors thought they should have the three engine drivers. The inquiry was then adjourned until Tuesday week, at three o'clock in the afternoon, and Mr. Newey undertook to try to get the three engine drivers present.

After the witnesses had been bound over, the Coroner told Murphy that he should disallow his expenses. He (Murphy) was the first to come on the scene after the accident, and might have given important evidence, but, owing to his drunken state today he had thrown a mystery about the case. If the police could see their way to summon him for drunkenness today he hoped they would do so. He had behaved in a most disgraceful manner. He disallowed his expenses, and ordered him to leave the house at once.

After the inquiry was closed, another witness stated that he turned the deceased over on to his back into the position he was found by the policeman. When he first found him he lay on his belly with his feet towards Wolverhampton, close to the metals, on the lefthand side going from Wolverhampton to Willenhall.

In the course of the inquiry; Police-constable Bailey stated that he had not been able to ascertain the name of the driver in charge of the train which ran over the deceased.

Mr. Newey said that three trains passed through Portobello about the time of the sad occurrence, and he had not heard which train killed the deceased."

Evening Express 13/12/1881

"This (Tuesday) afternoon, H. Brevitt, Esq, (deputy coroner), resumed an inquest at the GOUGHS ARMS, High Street, Portobello, on the body of Henry Benton (34), late of Bridge Street, Portobello, who was killed on the railway, near that place last Friday week.

The man named John Murphy, of No.1 Court, Church Street, Wolverhampton, was re-called, and adhered to the statements he made at the opening of the enquiry as to the position in which he found the body and the head of the deceased. He found the body in the four foot of the railway and lay on its back.

Samuel Povey, labourer, Shepwell Green, Willenhall, said, on learning from the last witness that a man lay dead on the line at Portobello, he went and saw the deceased lying, with breast downwards, with his feet towards Wolverhampton. The coat had been turned up over the neck. He turned the body over to its back, and then saw that the head was missing. Alfred Burt, a fellow workman, assisted in helping to carry the body on to the embankment. After Murphy and Burt told him, at Willenhall Bridge Station, that the deceased was on the line, he met the first passenger train, from Wolverhampton going to Willenhall, so that the deceased had been killed before that train came up. As soon as they got the body out of the way, a goods train came up, and when that was out of the way they searched for the head, and found it about three feet from where the body had lain, and the brains were scattered about the rails. Deceased's cap, breakfast can, and food, tied in a handkerchief, lay together at the foot of the embankment, four or five feet from the body. He, Burt, and Murphy left the Willenhall Bridge Station together, but he reached the body first.

Mrs. Armstrong, of Brickkiln Street, Portobello, said she last saw the deceased at about twelve minutes to seven o'clock on the morning of the accident. He was going from his home towards Portobello Bridge, in the direction of Willenhall. He was carrying a breakfast can and something tied in a handkerchief. Witness stood on the bridge and, while there, the passenger train from Wolverhampton to Willenhall went under it. The deceased had gone past her only about two minutes before.

Mrs. Benton, widow of the deceased (re-called), said she knew her husband had some money in his pockets on the day before the accident, but she could not say whether he had any the next morning. She had three children, the eldest being two years old last October, and the youngest one year and eight months old. It was only on the Monday before his death that she heard he was in the habit of walking down the line. He left home at a quarter to seven o'clock on the morning of the accident.

Edward Bayley, engine driver, in the employ of the London and North Western Railway, said that on the morning named he left Wolverhampton at 6.46 in charge of a passenger train for Willenhall, which, he was due at 6.52. He remembered passing under Portobello Bridge, but he did not notice any obstacle on the line. He heard of the accident at midday the same day, and when he reached Harborne he thoroughly examined the engine, but found no marks of any kind to lead him to suppose that it had killed anyone. On the Coroner explaining to the witness the position that the deceased was found in, he said, he could not understand why the deceased should be decapitated and his body lying parallel with the rails. The speed of the train might have caused the body to roll into that position.

Inspector Punderson, of the London and North Western Railway Company's service, stated that between a quarter to six and seven on the morning of the accident four trains passed the spot where deceased was found. He made inquiries from the drivers of each

train, but he could not get any information from them relating to the death of the deceased. This was all the evidence. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased was Found Dead, having been killed by a train, but whether his death was the result of an accident or otherwise there was no evidence to show.”

Evening Express 15/12/1881 - Advert

“Young Person who can play piano and assist in house work.
Apply, GOUGHS ARMS, Portobello.”

Evening Star 29/3/1882

“An adjourned inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon at the GOUGHS ARMS, Portobello, before W. H. Phillips Esq, coroner, touching the death of a child named Fanny Woodnorth, aged six years, daughter of a miner living in New Street, Portobello, who died suddenly, as already reported on the 22nd inst. It will be remembered that the inquest was adjourned last Thursday, in order for a post mortem examination to be made.

Dr. John T. Hartill now gave evidence as to deceased’s death being caused by congestion of the lungs, the membranes of the brain being excited by pleurisy.

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

Evening Star 30/5/1882

“An inquest was held yesterday before W. H. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the GOUGH ARMS, Portobello, touching the death of a miner named Robert Hughes (54), of Portobello, who died on Thursday from injuries received the previous day while being drawn up the shaft at Clothiers Colliery, Little London, Willenhall. Mr. Scott, Inspector of Mines, was present.

From the evidence it appeared that the deceased and another man, named Henry Burns, of Bridge Street, Portobello, were employed at the Clothiers Colliery, which belongs to Messrs. Hunt and Cotterill. It was the duty of John Freeman to draw up these two men. The pit was only 18 yards deep, and was worked by a double-linked chain, attached to a windlass. On the night in question, Freeman went to the pit, and drew up Burns first in a wooden bowk or tub, which he afterwards sent down to the deceased. Freeman asked when the bowk was at the bottom whether ‘all was ready’, and the deceased replied, ‘All right, go on, Jack.’ The deceased held a lighted candle in his hand, and when the witness had drawn up to the length of seven or eight yards the windlass was found to be lighter to work than usual. Burns accordingly looked down the shaft of the pit and said, ‘Stop, Jack; Bob’s off.’ The bowk was drawn up and found empty. The watchman (James Boyden) went down and found the deceased lying at the bottom covered with bricks. He was brought up and conveyed home, where he died on Thursday last. The witness Burns said that he noticed that a brick had been displaced at the top of the shaft, which was quite a new one, but could not tell whether it fell down the shaft.

Mr. Scott said he had made an examination of the pit shaft in question. The bricks at the top were not kerbed as he would like to see them. He did not observe that a brick had been displaced. In reply to the Coroner, he said the Mines’ Regulations Act provided that no cover was required for a windlass pit.

Mr. Hunt, one of the proprietors, said he would see to the bricks being kerbed.

After some deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1882

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton division of the Hundreds of Seisdon North were held yesterday.....

G. A. Sheldon, BRIDGE TAVERN, beerhouse, Portobello, applied, through Mr. John Clark, for a full license. He had formerly rented the house at £28 a year, and had lately bought it and two little cottages adjoining for £600. The annual rateable value of the present premises as a beerhouse was £30 a year. Mr. Dallow opposed on behalf of two houses near: the ALBION INN, Brick-kiln Street, Portobello (by Mrs. Perry); and the GOUGHS ARMS, High Street (by Mr. Barnes, Walsall, for the Cannock Brewery Company). Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/10/1883

“*Samuel Careless*, landlord of the GOUGHS ARMS INN, Portobello, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, on the 8th inst; and James Mills, bailiff, Pool Hayes Farm, and Annie France, a young girl living at Portobello, were summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises. Mr. R. Tildesley prosecuted on behalf of the police. Mr. R. A. Willcock defended *Careless*, and Mr. G. Cresswell appeared for Mills and France.

Police-constable Tracey gave evidence to the effect that on the evening of the date named he saw Mills and France sitting side by side in the smokeroom at the GOUGHS ARMS. On a table in front of them were two glasses, one containing what he believed was port wine. Both were very drunk, and France, upon attempting to stand up, fell into a chair. Subsequently, when witness visited the house again, the parties were still there, and, later still, upon the occasion of a third visit, he again found Mills there, drinking what appeared to be rum. Police-constable Moss corroborated as to the latter fact and as to the condition of Mills.

For the defence, *Careless* and his wife, his father, Mills and France, and a servant at the house were all called to prove that *Careless* and his wife were absent from home at the time in question, that Mills and France were both quite sober, and were not supplied with any intoxicants in the house.

The case against *Careless* was dismissed; Mills was fined 5s and costs, and France 2s 6d and costs.”

1891 Census

20, High Street – GOUGH ARMS

[1] *John Griffiths* (27), unmarried, public house manager, born Prestwich, Lancashire;

- [2] George Hendley (34), boarder, boat builder, born Sedgley;
[3] Mary A. Hendley (50), boarder, housekeeper, born Montgomeryshire;
[4] Albert Griffiths (5), nephew, scholar, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/9/1900

“At Willenhall, yesterday, Thomas Jones (28), labourer, of Moseley Hole, was charged with stealing 1s from the till at the GOUGH ARMS INN, Portobello, and with breaking into a shop of George Probert, High Street, Portobello, and stealing six pairs of socks and other articles. He was committed for trial.”

1901 Census

20, High Street – GOUGHS ARMS

- [1] *Mary L. Cornfield* (43), widow, licensed victualler, born Chester;
[2] Albert Freakley (22), son, iron moulder, born Wolverhampton;
[2] William Freakley (19), son, butcher, born Wolverhampton;
[4] Arthur Allen (30), brother in law, butcher, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

20, High Street, Portobello

- [1] *Edward James Mallin* (73), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
[2] Rose Hannah L. Mallin (70), wife, born Madeley, Shropshire;
[3] John Henry Mallin (40), son, fitter and turner, born Tipton:

1939 Register

High Street – GOUGH ARMS

- [1] *Lydia Cash*, date of birth 25/6/1878, licensee, widowed;
[2] *Esther Cash*, dob 8/12/1912, licensee, married;
[4] *George Ephraim Cash*, dob 13/3/1907, automobile locksmith, married:

Walsall Observer 26/6/1943 - Advert

“For Sale. Navy Costume, as new; Fawn Costume, long coat; Mustard Swagger Coat; Grey Coat; Several Dresses, Hats. GOUGH ARMS, Portobello, Willenhall.”

Walsall Observer 31/7/1943 - Advert

“Opossum Fur Coat, short, modern. W. Ring, 22ct, modern. 3-stone Diamond Ring 18ct, small. GOUGH ARMS, Portobello, Willenhall.”

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

Closed

GRAPES

21, High Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Michael Gallagher [1861] – [1865]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Michael Gallagher, beer retailer, High Street, Portobello. [1861], [1865]

1861 Census

21, High Street, Portobello – GRAPES INN

- [1] *Michael Gallagher* (34), publican, born Liverpool;

- [2] Anne Gallagher (34), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] John Dimmock (11), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Sarah Ann Gallagher (3), daughter, born Portobello;
- [5] Mary Gallagher (1), daughter, born Portobello;
- [6] Betsy Evans (29), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Michael Gallagher, retailer of beer, Portobello. [1862]

Michael Gallagher – check also ALBION.

GRAPES

234, (236), Moseley Road, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Punch Taverns [2000], [2016]

LICENSEES

Harry Llewelyn Painter [1939] – [1940]
R J Jarvis [1983] – [1988]
Carolyn May Blower [1993]
Jason Pegg [1995]
Anne-Marie Perrin (2001 – [2005])

NOTES

236, Moseley Road [1998], [2005]
234, Moseley Road [1976], [1983], [2001], [2005]

1939 Register

Moseley Road – GRAPES (3 of 4)

- [1] *Henry L. Painter*, date of birth 1/2/1890, licensee, married;
- [2] *Ann M. (Painter) Patchett*, dob 4/9/1888, licensee's wife, help in business, married;
- [3] *Harry L. Painter*, dob 11/5/1921, junior clerk, engineer, single;

London Gazette 6/8/1993

“*Blower, Carolyn May*, landlady, The GRAPES, Moseley Road Date of Filing Petition – 20th July 1993 Debtor's Petition.”

[1998]

It closed on 15th May 2000 for a £120,000 major facelift.
It reopened on 22nd June 2000, as the HAYWAIN

[2001]

It was renamed the GRAPES [2005]

It was locally listed in 2009.

[2022]

GRAPES

48, (13), Wood Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Abel Vaughan [1860] – [1875]
James Vaughan [1875] – **1881**); manager
Mrs. Mary Ann Vaughan (**1881** – [1892]
Thomas Rowbotham [1896] – [1904]
Mrs. Mary Ann Rowbotham [1908]
Mrs. Mary Ann Henshaw [1911] – [1912]
John Wilkes Yardley [1916]
Mrs. Gertrude Perrens [1921] – [1932]

NOTES

13, Wood Street [1871]
48, Wood Street [1891], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1932]

GRAPES TAVERN [1860], [1865], [1871], [1911]

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1860

“County Annual Licensing Day.....

Mr. Hayes applied for a license for Mr. *Abel Vaughan*, for the GRAPES TAVERN, near the Willenhall cemetery, urging the necessity of an inn near a place of sepulture, to which persons attending funerals could resort in wet weather. Mr. Underhill opposed. Refused.”

Abel Vaughan, beer retailer and mortice lock maker, Wood Street. [1861], [1865]

1861 Census

Wood Street

- [1] *Abel Vaughan* (46), mortice lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [2] Hannah Vaughan (46), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Henry Vaughan (23), son, mortice lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] Thomas Vaughan (19), son, mortice lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [5] James Vaughan (15), son, mortice lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [6] Amos Vaughan (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] George Vaughan (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] Eliza Worthington (17), house servant, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

“Mr. Thurstans said he appeared on behalf of Mr. *Abel Vaughan* to ask for a license to the GRAPES TAVERN, Willenhall. It was situated near the Cemetery and the gas Works, and the population around it had much increased since last year, when a similar application was made. The inhabitants of the district numbered 2,335. The nearest licensed house was 484 yards distant. Mr. Underhill in opposition, said if the license was granted his client Mr. Rowley, would be injured, and this was a fair and legitimate reason why the application should not be complied with. Refused.”

Abel Vaughan, retailer of beer, Wood Street. [1862]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

“At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division. Seisdon North, held yesterday.....
New applications (of old licences?)
Abel Vaughan, Wood Street, Willenhall, refused.”

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 27/5/1865 - Advert

“For Sale, a neat Spring Trap, and Silver-plated Harness, suitable for a Pony 12 or 13 hands, all in good condition. Price £8. Apply, GRAPES TAVERN, Wood Street, Willenhall.”

Abel Vaughan, beer retailer and lock maker, Wood Street. [1868], [1870]
Abel Vaughan, GRAPES TAVERN and lock maker, Wood Street. [1872]

1871 Census

13, Wood Street – GRAPES TAVERN

- [1] *Abel Vaughan* (36), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Harriet Vaughan (36), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Amos Vaughan (20), son, pawnbroker's assistant, born Willenhall;
- [4] George Vaughan (17), son, solicitor's clerk (articled), born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

“Defensio, Non Provocatio.’ Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the ‘Merchandize Marks Act, 1862,’ and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association. Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.

Willenhall: A Ford, CASTLE INN, New Road; *A. Vaughan*, GRAPES INN, Wood Street; Mrs. A. Marston, HOPE AND ANCHOR, Little London;. I. Pitt, WHITE LION, Lichfield Street.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 5/4/1875

“Samuel Saunders was charged by Inspector Gasson with being drunk on licensed premises, and *Abel Vaughan*, landlord of the VINE INN, Wood Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house *James Vaughan*, nephew of *Abel Vaughan*, and manager of the VINE INN Mr. Gough said that had Mr. *Vaughan*, the defendant, been the occupier of the house this case would not in all probability occur. The house was, however, carried on in his name, the license not having been transferred or some arrangement having been made between defendant and his nephew; there was no doubt the offence had taken place, and the defendant, though the Bench was sorry to inflict a fine, would have to pay a penalty of 10s and costs.”

- Saunders was fined 2s 6d and costs.

1881 Census

48, Wood Street

- [1] *James Vaughan* (36), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Ann Vaughan* (36), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Alice Vaughan (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Florie Vaughan (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Annie Vaughan (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Arthur J. Vaughan (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Bertha Vaughan (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] Edith Vaughan (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] Elizabeth Williamson (18), general servant, born Daisy Bank:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/9/1881

“At the County Police Court, on Monday, the adjourned licensing sessions for Wolverhampton division of the county was held The following licenses of houses situate at Willenhall were fully transferred. the GRAPES INN, Wood Street, to *Mary Ann Vaughan*, as widow and administratrix of *James Vaughan*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/11/1886 - Advert

“Billiard Table. For Sale, a very superior full-sized Billiard Table, by Cox and Yeaman, with all the appointments and effects; cost £120. Used by private club only.

Apply, GRAPES, Wood Street, Willenhall.”

1891 Census

48, Wood Street – GRAPES TAVERN

- [1] *Mary A. Vaughan* (45), widow, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Alice Vaughan (21), daughter, born Willenhall;

- [3] Florence Vaughan (18), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Annie Vaughan (17), daughter, dressmaker, born Willenhall;
- [5] Arthur J. Vaughan (15), son, die sinker, born Willenhall;
- [6] Bertha Vaughan (13), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Edith Vaughan (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

48, Wood Street

- [1] *Thomas Rowbotham* (45), publican, born Penn;
- [2] *Mary Ann Rowbotham* (40), wife, born Tunstall, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Emily Rowbotham* (10), daughter, born Newcastle, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Edith Rowbotham* (8), daughter, born Willenhall:

Mary Ann Rowbotham married *George Henshaw* in the 1st quarter of 1909.

1911 Census

48, Wood Street

- [1] *Mary Ann Henshaw* (50), licensed victualler, born Tunstall, Staffordshire;
- [2] *George Henshaw* (55), husband, married 2 years, engineering fitter, born Bradley;
- [3] *George Henshaw* (21), stepson, cast iron picture frame maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Emilie Rowbotham* (20), daughter, assistant in business, born Newcastle under Lyme;
- [5] *Edith Rowbotham* (18), daughter, assistant in business, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/2/1916

“Wolverhampton County Licensing Sessions were held yesterday, Sir Charles Mander, Bart., presiding.

Reporting on the Willenhall division, Superintendent Rowbotham said there was one license to every 212 persons. There was a decrease of 33 males and an increase of two females convicted compared with the preceding year. Superintendent Moss reported on the Tettenhall division that 57 males and 4 females were convicted of drunkenness, compared with 103 males and 10 females in the previous year.

Mr. T. B. Adams (magistrate) remarked that there had been an attempt to evade the Board of Control regulations by reducing the price of beer. The bench would certainly view in a serious light such evasion of the spirit of the Order. It was not stopping the ‘long pull’ if licensed victuallers were going to reduce the price of beer.

The TURF TAVERN, Penn Common, and the BOAT INN, Swindon, were referred to the compensation authority; while the following licenses against which formal objections had been made by the police were renewed: COCK INN, Heath Town; BULL INN; Codsall; GRAPES, Willenhall; GEORGE AND DRAGON, Willenhall; and the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall.

Superintendent Rowbotham informed the bench that in the Willenhall and Bilston districts all the automatic gaming machines had been removed.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 18/2/1928

“The Coroner for South Staffordshire (Mr. J. T. Higgs) held an inquiry at the GRAPES INN, Willenhall, on Saturday, concerning the death of Christopher Stevens (65), a peddler, who lived in a caravan in Noose Lane, Wednesfield.

According to the evidence of his wife and other witnesses the deceased left the caravan on Christmas Eve, and was seen to leave a licensed house at Portobello the same night about ten minutes to eleven. He proceeded homewards, and would have to pass along the bank of the River Tame, which was flooded and running rapidly. He did not reach home, and on Christmas morning his wife reported to the police that he was missing.

Frederick William Williamson, Watery Lane, Wednesfield, stated that on his way home he passed the deceased. He was staggering a bit and singing. The bank was very slippery, and if the deceased missed his footing and fell into the river, the flow of water would take him under the archway.

In answer to Inspector Elliott, witness stated that it was a dark night and the spot was a dangerous one. The path was not fenced. PS Thorpe gave particulars of the recovery of the body from the water on February 10th, lodged against a water pipe which runs across the Tame, and can be seen when the water is at normal height. There were not any marks of violence, and the body was fully dressed.

The Coroner returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 19/5/1928

“Mr. J. T. Higgs (Coroner for South Staffordshire) held an inquest at the GRAPES INN, Wood Street, Willenhall, on Saturday, concerning the death of William Granningham Bayley (59), of 7, Brinton Street, Pleck, Walsall, whose body was recovered from the canal at Bentley on Friday of last week.

Jemima Bayley said that her father had been unemployed for five years, having been suspended after thirty years’ service at a tube works, because of his age. He had been receiving outdoor relief from the Guardians for 14 months. He did some work for a bookmaker and his relief was stopped ten weeks ago. He was fined for bookmaking on May 7th, and had done nothing since. He had been worried because of his illness. His case was being investigated by the Guardians, and he should have attended their meeting on May 18th. The last time she saw her father was at 8.20pm on May 17th. Next morning when she came downstairs she found a note written by him, stating that he was not going to the Guardians.

John Henry Webster, of Bond Street, Wolverhampton, said he was walking along the canal-side at Bentley on Thursday morning, when he saw a hat and coat folded up on the towpath. In the water he could see a man's body, which was subsequently recovered. The Coroner returned a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind, and remarked that the Guardians had done all they could for the deceased. He added that the man seemed to be at the end of his tether."

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1937

"Twelve applications for the confirmation of licence removals remained to be heard by the Staffordshire Licensing Confirmation Committee when they resumed their sitting at Stafford on Tuesday. Sir William Goodwin (chairman) presided.....

The justices approved six removals in the Willenhall Division. In several cases it was stated that the licence would be transferred from old houses in congested areas to modern premises in newly developed districts. In consideration the brewery companies would surrender other licences. The removals were as follows.....

Removal of full licence of the GRAPES INN, Wood Street, to premises proposed to be erected in Moseley Road."

GROVE ARMS

42, High Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Brevitt [1845] – [1865]

Mrs. Mary Brevitt [1868] – [1870]

Thomas Espley [1873] – [1874]

Richard Evans [1881]

James Hough [] – **1881**);

Thomas Henry Morgan (**1881**);

Henry Deary (**1881** – []

Charles Armstrong [1896] – [1904]

Harry Walker [1907]

NOTES

GROVES ARMS [1843], [1847], [1849], [1850], [1896], [1904]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/7/1843

"On Friday William Ball and Charles Ball were committed for trial at the assizes by G. Briscoe, Esq., charged with robbing, on the highway, near Willenhall, John Powis, of three half-crowns and a shilling. The prosecutor, it appeared, was knocked down, and severely beaten."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/8/1843

"William Ball, aged 28 years, was indicted for assaulting John Powis, on the 21st of July, at the township of Willenhall, and stealing from his person three half-crowns and one shilling.

Mr. Spooner conducted the prosecution.

It appeared from the evidence that the prosecutor, who stood in the witness box with his arm in a sling, and his head bound with a handkerchief, lived in the township of Bilston, and on the 20th of July was at the GROVES ARMS public-house, Portobello, where he had been about seven hours. The prisoner was there also. He had not known him previously, but he particularly noticed him when in the public-house on account of his singing. The prosecutor went away about 12 o'clock at night, the prisoner having left three-quarters of an hour before. On his way he was knocked down and kicked and struck about the head and shoulders, in consequence of which several wounds were inflicted upon his person. There were two men concerned, one of them was kicking the prosecutor whilst the other took three half-crowns and one shilling from his pocket. Prosecutor positively swore to the prisoner being one of the men. The prosecutor remained on the ground for a short time, and afterwards went to the house of Thomas Lloyd, where the wounds on his head were dressed. The prisoner was apprehended a short time afterwards, and near the spot where the attack was made, a piece of stick which appeared to have been recently broken was found. The prisoner in defence admitted being the GROVES ARMS public-house; where he said the prosecutor also was, and in a beastly state of intoxication; he, however, denied having seen the prisoner after he went away. The constable who took the prisoner into custody was interrogated by the Jury as to whether the prosecutor was in a sufficiently sober state when he saw him, and to lead him to believe that he could distinctly speak to the prisoner, to which he replied that when the prisoner was taken to Lloyd's house, the prosecutor was not so drunk, but that he immediately identified him.

The jury immediately found him guilty.

His Lordship told the prisoner that he had been found guilty of a crime which rendered him liable to forfeit his life. The law had very wisely drawn a distinction between robberies where property alone was taken, and those cases in which the loss of property was attended with personal violence, which made a great difference as to the degree of punishment. It was clear in the present instance, that he had attacked and beat the prosecutor in a very cruel manner. Sentence of death was then ordered to be recorded against the prisoner, and it is probable that he will be transported for life.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1845

“Inquests before T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner.....

On Tuesday, at the GROVE ARMS, Porto Bello, on Edward Cooper, a miner, employed in the Moseley Hole Colliery, who died from being burnt by an explosion of sulphurous gas in an ironstone pit whilst at work. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/4/1847

“An inquest was held on Friday last, at the GROVES ARMS, Portobello, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of the infant found buried last week in a field at that place. It appeared from the evidence of the surgeon, who made a post mortem examination of the body, that the infant was stillborn. A verdict to that effect was accordingly returned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/5/1849

“On Thursday last, an inquest was held at the GROVE ARMS, Portobello, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Mary Grainger, about 45 years of age, a widow, with respect to whose death there had been a report in circulation that she had taken something in her tea and destroyed herself. It appeared however, from the evidence, that although she had died very suddenly (having been apparently in good health only ten minutes previously) there was no reason to believe that death had been caused by other than Natural Causes; and the jury returned a verdict to that effect.”

Thomas Brevitt was also a rim lock manufacturer. [1851]

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *Thomas Brevitt* (48), victualler and locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Brevitt* (50), wife, born Shrewsbury;
- [3] Ann Jeffcoat (24), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Thomas Brevitt (20), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Richard Davis (15), servant, born Hodgestry, Shropshire;
- [6] Elizabeth Jeffcoat (12), visitor, born Bilston;
- [7] Sarah Rudge (11), servant, born Shrewsbury;

Birmingham Journal 7/10/1854

“T. M. Phillips, Esq., held an inquest at the GROVE ARMS, Portobello, on Monday last, upon the body of Christopher Babb, a boy nine years of age, who was engaged as a gin driver at a pit belonging to Mr. W. Sparrow, jun., at that village. On Saturday last, on a man calling from the pit, deceased, who was playing a little distance off, ran hastily towards it, his foot slipped, and he fell down the pit and was instantly killed. It was given in evidence that the deceased was in the habit of lying along the ground, placing his head over the pit mouth, and shouting to the men engaged at the bottom; and on several occasions he had been found asleep in that position.”

1861 Census

Portobello

- [1] *Thomas Brevitt* (58), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Brevitt* (60), wife, born Shropshire;
- [3] Prudence Fullwood (20), servant, born Bilston;
- [4] Thomas Froh (27), labourer, carter, born Shawhill, Staffordshire;
- [5] William Mincher (55), labourer, carter, born Kinver;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/7/1861

“On Saturday last, T. M. Phillips, Esq., coroner, held an inquest at the GROVES ARMS, Portobello, on the body of a boy named Michael Gough, about six years, who had been drowned in a ‘swag’ of water in Mr. Barker’s colliery, adjoining the Wolverhampton turnpike road. Deceased was playing with two other children on one of the pit mounds in the colliery, and running down the face of it he acquired such speed that he could not stop himself before he got to the water. The ‘swag’ was 8 feet deep, and the poor fellow drowned before assistance could be procured. The place was fenced on the side adjoining the road, and deceased and his companions had no business in the colliery. The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned.”

1881 Census

42, High Street, Portobello – GROVE ARMS

- [1] *Richard Evans* (26), baker and innkeeper, born Portobello;
- [2] Sarah Ann Evans (26), wife, born Portobello;

[3] Nancy Elizabeth Evans (1), daughter, born Portobello;
[4] Elizabeth Gobey (10), nurse, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

42, High Street – GROVE ARMS – unoccupied:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/11/1892

“Mr. G. M. Martin (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the DARTMOUTH ARMS, Wolverhampton, yesterday, touching the death of Thomas Henry (22), ironcaster, of Stone Street, Portobello, who died in the Wolverhampton Hospital on Sunday from the effects of injuries received on the Willenhall tramroad on the previous night, under circumstances already reported.

According to the evidence, the deceased was drinking on Saturday night, and at the GROVE ARMS, Portobello, he was refused beer, as the landlady thought he had had sufficient. Later on, as a tramcar driven by Enoch Bruerton was proceeding through Portobello, the horses shied at something on the track, and they were pulled up. The driver and the conductor got down to see what was the matter, but as only a hat was visible about the roadway, the driver proceeded. On reaching Willenhall, about a mile away, the driver was told that a noise had been heard under the car, and an examination revealed the fact that the deceased was entangled with the brake gear, and enquiries showed that he had been dragged all the way from Portobello. He was put in a cart and taken to the hospital at Wolverhampton, where he died on the following day from the effects of a compound fracture of the left arm and other injuries.

One of the witnesses called was a brother of the deceased named Patrick Henry, who rode from Wolverhampton to Willenhall in the tramcar which dragged his brother part of the way. He said he remembered the car giving a jerk, and spoke to the driver getting down to see what was the matter, but said he heard no groan or anything to lead to the belief that there was anyone under the car.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1901 Census

42, High Street

[1] *Charles Armstrong* (64), publican, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Ellen Armstrong* (55), wife, born Wolverhampton:

London Gazette 31/1/1905

“Bankrupts..... *Charles Armstrong*, The GROVE ARMS, 42 High Street, Portobello, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, licensed victualler.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/2/1905

“*Charles Armstrong* of the GROVE ARMS INN, Portobello, Willenhall, whose affairs are in bankruptcy, has liabilities of £157 and assets £25. He attributed his failure to bad trade.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/2/1907

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Seisdon division of the county were held on Monday. The Chairman said there were in the division 284 licensed houses, which gave one for every 196 inhabitants. If they calculated a family as consisting of five persons, it really meant that for every 40 men there was one public house. That there were too many public houses he did not think there were two opinions, and the difficulty which licensed persons had to make an honest living was apparent when he stated that last year one in every five of the licensed holders applied for transfers. The consideration of the renewals of licences that had been adjourned was taken, and, with the exception of five were renewed. These five were.....

the GROVE ARMS, Portobello.....

After taking evidence, the magistrates adjourned the consideration of all the cases.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1907

“County Licensing Compensation Authority.

The principal meeting of the County Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1904, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford on Tuesday.....

In the Wolverhampton Division, the following houses were scheduled.....

GROVE ARMS, Portobello, Willenhall, full license, *Harry Walker*. Renewal refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/7/1907

“A supplemental meeting of the County Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Wednesday and Thursday, to consider the amount of compensation to be awarded in the case of licenses the renewal of which was refused at the principal meeting.....

GROVE ARMS, Portobello, Willenhall (owner Col. H. H. Ward), £850.”

HAND AND BOTTLE

Wolverhampton Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1910s]

HOLLY BUSH

113, (10), (54), Newhall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Highgate Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

Mary Collett [] – **1869**;
Richard Dodd (**1869 – 1874**);
William Lester (**1874 – []**)
Isaac Bratt [1881]
Joseph Hemingsley Nicholls (**1883 – 1886**)
William Dabbs (**1886 – []**)
Arthur Pointon [1891] – [1896]
Joseph Warrender [1901] – [1904]
George Aston [1908] – [1916]
Charles Henry Whitehouse [1921]
Thomas Statham [1932]
Charles James Smith [1939] – [1940]
Alan J Ponder []

NOTES

54, New Hall Street [1871]
10, Newhall Street [1916], [1921]
113, Newhall Street [1881], [1891], [1892], [1896], [1916], [1932], [1939], [1940]

1871 Census

54, New Hall Street
[1] *Richard Dodd* (29), clerk at iron works and publican, born Bilston;
[2] *Mary Dodd* (35), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] *Mary Dodd* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
[4] *John Collett* (14), son, roller at iron works, born Willenhall;
[5] *Thomas Collett* (12), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
[6] *Samuel Collett* (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
[7] *William Collett* (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
[8] *Edward A. Collett* (3), son, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

“Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Beerhouses: *R. Dodd*, HOLLY BUSH, Willenhall.....”

1881 Census

113, New Hall Street

- [1] *Isaac Bratt* (48), innkeeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Bratt* (40), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Frederick Bratt* (19), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Charles Richard Bratt* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Mary Ann Julia Bratt* (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Samuel Bratt* (4), son, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 7/5/1886

“Bankruptcy Proceedings.....

Joseph Hemingsley Nicholls, licensed victualler, HOLLY BUSH INN, Newhall Street, Willenhall, has filed his petition in the Wolverhampton County Court. His liabilities are estimated at £320 and his assets £65. Mr. George Vaughan is the solicitor to the debtor.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/5/1886

“Bankruptcy Proceedings.....

Joseph H. Nichols, late of the HOLLY BUSH INN, New Street, Willenhall, attended at the County Court, Wolverhampton, yesterday, for examination.

The liabilities were estimated at £288, and the assets at £33, leaving a deficiency of £254. The debtor took to the HOLLY BUSH in 1883, up to which time he had been a journeyman die sinker. Mr. W. Butler lent him £195 to pay for the stock, &c, and in November 1884 he repaid Mr. Butler £100, out of £235 which he received from his late father’s estate. The remaining portion was handed to his other creditors.

The examination was adjourned.”

1891 Census

113, New Hall Street – HOLLY BUSH

- [1] *Arthur Pointon* (33), licensed victualler, born Shifnal, Shropshire;
- [2] *Eliza Pointon* (40), wife, born Stirchley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Louisa Thompson* (18), general servant, born Bilston:

Arthur Pointon – see also JUNCTION.

1901 Census

New Hall Street – HOLLY BUSH INN

- [1] *Joseph Warrender* (49), rim locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Warrender* (44), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Louisa Warrender* (21), daughter, dressmaker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *John Warrender* (20), son, brass caster, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Annie Warrender* (18), daughter, born Willenhall:

Joseph Warrender – see also NOAHS ARK.

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

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

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

Highgate houses.....

HOLLY BUSH, Newhall Street, Willenhall.”

1939 Register

113, Newhall Street

- [1] *James Smith*, date of birth 27/4/1874, general labourer, retired, married;
- [2] *Charles James Smith*, dob 23/9/1909, manager licensed trade, single, ARP warden;
- [3] *Patience Smith*, dob 19/4/1878, unpaid domestic duties, married:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, North Division. [1946]

Closed

It was demolished in the late 1970s.

HOMESTEAD

231, Stroud Avenue, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1983]

[Express & Star 22/3/2021](#)

“Pubs group Marston’s has issued a list of pubs set to reopen in the Black Country on April 12th. In the Express & Star circulation area this takes in 93. Due to coronavirus restrictions they will only be able to accommodate customers in outdoor areas including beer gardens and seated areas. To accompany table service, Marston’s has introduced an online ordering system called ‘Marston’s Tap’. The online platform is available across the majority of Marston’s pubs for guests to use. Bookings are being accepted and guests can reserve a table via each pub’s website. Wolverhampton-based Marston’s has an estate of around 1,400 pubs across the UK and not all in England are able to reopen in April due to not having an outdoor space.....
HOMESTEAD, Stroud Avenue, Willenhall.”

[2021]

HOPE AND ANCHOR

8, (8+9), (134), Bloxwich Road, (Little London / Stafford Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Lashfords

LICENSEES

John Phillips [1833] – [1847]

Henry Hall [1849] – [1851]

Thomas Marston [1851] – **1859**)

Mrs. Ann Marston [1860] – **1876**);

Joseph Marston (**1876** – [1908]

Ross Shorter [1911] – [1921]

Albert Groves [1932]

Isaac Tonks [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

Little London, Stafford Street [1849]

Little London [1850], [1860]

134, Bloxwich Road [1871]

8+9, Bloxwich Road [1881], [1891], [1901]

8, Bloxwich Road [1904], [1908], [1932], [1940]

It stood directly opposite Little London Schools in Bloxwich Road.

1841 Census

Little London

- [1] *John Phillips* (65), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Phillips* (60), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Ellen Evans* (25), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Enoch Evans* (6), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Elizabeth Loat* (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

Henry Hall married *Caroline Phillips* in the 4th quarter of 1842.

Henry Hall was also a builder, cabinet maker and upholsterer. [1851]

1851 Census

Little London

- [1] *Henry Hall* (34), victualer, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Caroline Hall* (30), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Mary Hall* (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Henry Hall* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Phoebe Hall* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *John Phillips* (77), father in law, widower, proprietor of houses, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Harriet Haynsworth* (18), servant, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Eliza Griffiths* (17), servant, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/6/1859 - Deaths

“On the 11th instant, Mr. *Thomas Marston*, of the HOPE AND ANCHOR, Little London, aged 69 years.”

Ann Marston = Ann Marsden

1861 Census

Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Ann Marston* (60), widow, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Marston* (21), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Lois Marston* (19), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Lucy Marston* (17), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Jane Marston* (14), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Harry Marston* (12), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Eber Marston* (29), lodger, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Elizabeth Marston* (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Louisa Marston* (3), daughter, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

“At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division, Seisdon North, held yesterday.....

Mr. *Thomas Jones* applied for a new license to the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Stafford Street, Willenhall. The Magistrates refused the same. In support of the application for Mr. *Jones* of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, Mr. *H. Underhill* appeared; Mr. *Langman* opposed on behalf of *Ann Marston*, of the HOPE AND ANCHOR. Mr. *Langman* reminded the Bench that the applicant had sought a license at the hands of that Court many times before, but had not been successful in his efforts to do so. Since then he had done nothing in the way of enlarging his premises, with the view to making them deserving of a new license, so that what the objections were formerly in the way of granting his application existed also now. His house was not more than three hundred yards distance from the HOPE AND ANCHOR; besides which, on the other side there was another public house. On the last occasion but one that he appeared in that Court the Magistrates told him that his house was not sufficiently commodious, and though since he had taken in a small dwelling house with the view of increasing his room, he had let it off again, so that with regard to room he was in precisely the same position as before.”

P.C. *William Lyons* was murdered nearby in 1864 after breaking up a disturbance outside the pub.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1864

“The adjourned licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton Division of Seisdon North was held on Monday last.....

Mr. *Underhill* applied for a new license to the DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, situate on the road leading from Willenhall to Little London, on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Jones*, the occupant. He said the Bench gave him permission at the Annual Licensing Meeting to make the application today, in consequence of his not being fully instructed at that time. His chief grounds of application were, the applicant's good character and experience, the suitability of the house and premises, and the wants of the locality, there being no licensed house within 263 yards in one direction and 297 in another.

Mr. *Thurstans* opposed the application on behalf of Mrs. *Marston*, of the HOPE AND ANCHOR, and said the occupant of the other licensed house in the neighbourhood was in attendance to oppose personally. He contended that no more public house

accommodation was required. The same application had been made in previous years and refused, and there were no new grounds to warrant a different decision now.
The Magistrates granted the license.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/6/1865

“To the editor of the Daily Post. Sir, I have witnessed funerals at your Old Cemetery, and at some of your churchyards, and for some time there have been such restrictions as these such as compelling them to brick each coffin over, or to place a board over the top of it, to prevent any unpleasant smell from arising. But it appears that it does not apply to Willenhall, for at the Baptist Chapel, Little London, there was a funeral on the 20th of June, which I am sure, for I saw it, that when the coffin was in, it was not covered over with brick, wood, or any board, the same grave not more than two yards from the window of a dwelling house; the bottom of the same grave no lower than the floor of the said house. Surely, I thought, this wants making known, for in the very ground there were numbers interred of those who died of the cholera not so many years ago, which spread with such fatal results in this parish; and for people to live in such an atmosphere, at this time of year, with such temperature as we are having, it is fearful to imagine the consequences that might arise, for it is not a single case; they tell me they are of frequent occurrence. By inserting this, or such of it as you may think proper, it may put a stop to it before more serious results must occur; for it is next door to leaving them on top. The people tell me the stench is fearful sometimes, and well it may be. Hoping this will have the effect the writer wishes for, the happiness and prosperity of his native town, I remain your truly.

J. Marston, HOPE AND ANCHOR, Little London, Willenhall.

June 22, 1865.”

1871 Census

134, Bloxwich Road

[1] *Ann Marston* (70), widow, licensed victualler, HOPE & ANCHOR, born Willenhall;

[2] *Louisa Marston* (29), daughter, general servant, born Willenhall;

[3] *Elizabeth Marston* (14), granddaughter, general servant, born Willenhall;

[4] *William Marston* (11), grandson, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] *Henry Corbett* (25), boarder, cordwainer, born Wednesfield:

Ann Marston was also a shopkeeper. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

“‘Defensio, Non Provocatio.’ Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the ‘Merchandize Marks Act, 1862,’ and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association.

Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.

Willenhall: A Ford, CASTLE INN, New Road; A. Vaughan, GRAPES INN, Wood Street; Mrs. *A. Marston*, HOPE AND ANCHOR, Little London; I. Pitt, WHITE LION, Lichfield Street.”

Midland Examiner 26/2/1876

“At the County Petty Sessions, on Monday, the following licenses were transferred.

HOPE AND ANCHOR INN, Little London, Willenhall, from *Ann Marston* to *Joseph Marston*, of Bath Street, Walsall.”

1881 Census

8 and 9, Bloxwich Road

[1] *Joseph Marston* (46), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] *Sophia Marston* (39), wife, born Stourbridge;

[3] *Rosa Jasper* (5), niece, scholar, born Walsall;

[4] *Mary Taylor* (19), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/12/1888

“Yesterday, Mr. *J. Marston*, of the HOPE AND ANCHOR INN, Little London, applied for one hour’s extension to the Willenhall members of the Licensed Victuallers’ Society on Christmas Eve, Boxing Day, and New Year’s Eve. The application was granted; the Bench remarking that a similar extension would be granted to every publican who applied to the assistant magistrates’ clerk before Friday.”

1891 Census

8+9, Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Joseph Marston* (56), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Sophia Marston* (49), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Rose Jasper* (15), niece, assistant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Mary Morris* (16), general servant, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

8+9, Bloxwich Road – HOPE AND ANCHOR INN

- [1] *Joseph Marston* (66), widower, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Rose Jasper* (25), niece, house keeper, born Walsall;
- [3] *Louisa Duggins* (16), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Mary Donnall* (21), general servant, born London:

Joseph Marston was a committee member of Wolverhampton and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

Ross Shorter played football for Willenhall Swifts.

1911 Census

Bloxwich Road

- [1] *Ross Shorter* (25), licensed victualler, born Cheslyn Hay;
- [2] *Minnie Tonks Shorter* (21), wife, married 1 year, assisting in business, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Harry Handley Shorter* (1), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Emmie Rushton* (18), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Clara Fisher* (15), nurse, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Harry Jackson* (34), potman, born Walsall:

It was demolished in 1921.

Rebuilt

1939 Register

Bloxwich Road – HOPE AND ANCHOR

- [1] *Isaac Tonks*, date of birth 22/3/1900, licensed trade, married, ARP;
- [2] *Ada M. Tonks*, dob 28/2/1901, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Annie Leadbeater*, dob 13/5/1906, bar general, single:

Closed

It was demolished in the mid 1950s.

HORSE AND JOCKEY

8, (10), Wolverhampton Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Cheshire's Brewery Co.

Mrs. Ellen Harper [1907]

LICENSEES

John Shepherd [1869] – **1877**);

Job Butler (**1877** – **1879**);

Eliza Jenkins (**1879** – []

David Morgan [1891] – [1901]

Charles Whittton [1907]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

John Shepherd, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Willenhall, 5s and costs.....”

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for permitting gaming.....

John Shepherd, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Willenhall, committed for half-an-hour to the cells, but no fine inflicted.”

1871 Census

10, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *John Shepherd* (37), brass padlock maker, employing 5 men, and publican, born Willenhall;

[2] *Dinah Shepherd* (39), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Emily Shepherd* (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[4] *Mary A. Shepherd* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] *John Shepherd* (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] *Enoch Shepherd* (2), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[7] *Ellen Perry* (17), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

8, Wolverhampton Street – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN

[1] *David Morgan* (37), latch manufacturer, born Willenhall;

[2] *Elizabeth Morgan* (37), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *Peter Morgan* (70), father, widower, living on his own means, born Willenhall;

[4] *Lydia Kershaw* (10), step-daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] *Mary Kershaw* (10), step-daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] *David Morgan* (1 month), son, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

Wolverhampton Street – HORSE AND JOCKEY Public House

[1] *David Morgan* (47), latch maker, born Willenhall;

[2] *Elizabeth Morgan* (47), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *Mary Kershaw* (20), general servant, born Willenhall;

[4] *David Morgan* (10), son, born Willenhall;

[5] *Sarah Morgan* (7), daughter, born Willenhall;

[6] *George A. Fergusson* (41), boarder, rim lock maker, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/2/1907

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Seisdon division of the county were held on Monday. The Chairman said there were in the division 284 licensed houses, which gave one for every 196 inhabitants. If they calculated a family as consisting of five persons, it really meant that for every 40 men there was one public house. That there were too many public houses he did not think there were two opinions, and the difficulty which licensed persons had to make an honest living was apparent when he stated that last year one in every five of the licensed holders applied for transfers. The consideration of the renewals of licences that had been adjourned was taken, and, with the exception of five were renewed. These five were.....

the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Willenhall.....

After taking evidence, the magistrates adjourned the consideration of all the cases.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1907

“County Licensing Compensation Authority.

The principal meeting of the County Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1904, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford on Tuesday.....

In the Wolverhampton Division, the following houses were scheduled.....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall, beerhouse (ante-1869), *Charles Whitton*.....

Mr. Willcock applied for the renewal of the HORSE AND JOCKEY licence, stating that the tenant had done an increasing trade during the few months he had held the licence. Superintendent Spendlove said the house was tied to Cheshire’s Brewery Company, and within a 500 yards’ radius there were 19 full-licensed and 21 beerhouses. The renewal was refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/7/1907

“A supplemental meeting of the County Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Wednesday and Thursday, to consider the amount of compensation to be awarded in the case of licenses the renewal of which was refused at the principal meeting.....

In cases where the amount of compensation approved by the committee was not accepted by the parties concerned, these were referred to the Inland Revenue Commissioners to determine the sum to be awarded.....
HORSE AND JOCKEY, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall (owner Mrs. Ellen Harper), referred to Inland Revenue Commissioners.”

[1908]

Lichfield Mercury 8/1/1909

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.....

The Licensing Committee presented a report for the year 1908.....

The Commissioners of Inland Revenue gave their decisions in the cases referred to them last year.....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Willenhall, £739.”

Closed

JOLLY BOAT

Lane Head, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Walter Coalbourne [1834]

JOLLY COBBLER

New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

South Staffordshire Times 15/10/1921

“On Monday evening the members of the ‘Herbert Gladstone’ Lodge of National United Order of Free Gardeners (including Bilston, Walsall, and Cannock district) assembled at headquarters (the JOLLY COBBLER INN), New Invention, to participate in the unveiling of the roll of honour, Mr. Enoch Price, presided, and was supported by the Grand Master of the Order (Mr. C. C. Hawkesworth, of Leeds).”

JOLLY COLLIER

3, Essington Road / Lichfield Road, (Wolverhampton Road), (Sneyd Lane), New Invention, (Short Heath), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

R. A. Harper Ltd. [1907]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Whitehouse [1862] – [1866]
Eva (Belcher) Peace [1881] – (1882);
Joseph Peace (1882 – [1901]
Charles Peace [1907] – [1912]
Mrs. Myra Peace [1932]

NOTES

Sneyd Lane [1881], [1891], [1901]

JOLLY COLLIERS [1862]

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Whitehouse, retailer of beer, New Invention. [1862]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/11/1862

“At the Police Court, on Monday, *Joseph Whitehouse*, landlord of the JOLLY COLLIERS public house, New Invention, was charged by George Farbuck, landlord of the GATE public house, of the same place, with having assaulted him. It appears the parties are brothers-in-law, and their respective public houses being situated opposite each other at the above place, this latter circumstance seems to have engendered a little trade hostility. They met on Monday evening week at the house of complainant and quarrelsome words were succeeded by blows on both sides. As, however, it was proved that defendant struck the first blow, he was ordered to pay a fine of 1s and costs.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/1/1863

“C. Cooper of New Invention will run either D. Onions seven score yards, or A. Clewley six score, for £10 a side. Money ready at *Whitehouse's*, JOLLY COLLIERS, New Invention, near Wolverhampton, any night next week.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/3/1866

“On Monday last, at the Police Court, *Joseph Whitehouse*, landlord of the JOLLY COLLIERS INN, New Invention, was charged, at the instance of Police-constable Leek, with permitting drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house. The officer stated that he went to the defendant's house on the previous Monday, disguised as a cattle drover. He saw about sixty persons, most of them drunk, in the lower rooms, and there were thirty or forty more upstairs. Some of the more inebriated of the company were quarrelling, and all were more or less disorderly. The defendant admitted that there were a good many customers in the house, but denied that they were making such a noise as the officer represented, and he complained very strongly of the policeman coming into his house in disguise as he did not know who he was.

The Bench justified the policeman's conduct in the matter, and fined the defendant 10s and costs.”

1881 Census

Sneyd Lane – JOLLY COLLIER

- [1] George Belcher (43), unemployed, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Eve Belcher* (39), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] Enoch Belcher (21), son, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Rosanah Belcher (11), daughter, scholar, born Staffordshire:

Eva Belcher married *Joseph Peace* on 14th August 1882.

1891 Census

Sneyd Lane

- [1] *Joseph Peace* (58), cordwainer and tavern keeper, born Cheslyn Hay;
- [2] *Eva Peace* (49), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Rose Belcher (20), step daughter, born Heath Town:

1901 Census

Sneyd Lane

- [1] *Joseph Peace* (69), tied beerhouse keeper, born Cheslyn Haye;
- [2] *Eva Peace* (59), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Jane Timmins (19), servant born Short Heath:

Charles Peace married *Myra Smith* in the 1st quarter of 1885.

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/2/1907

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Seisdon division of the county were held on Monday. The Chairman said there were in the division 284 licensed houses, which gave one for every 196 inhabitants. If they calculated a family as consisting of five persons, it really meant that for every 40 men there was one public house. That there were too many public houses he did not think there were two opinions, and the difficulty which licensed persons had to make an honest living was apparent when he stated that last year one in every five of the licensed holders applied for transfers. The consideration of the renewals of licences that had been adjourned was taken, and, with the exception of five were renewed. These five were.....
the JOLLY COLLIER INN, New Invention.....
After taking evidence, the magistrates adjourned the consideration of all the cases.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1907

“The ‘principal’ meeting of the County Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1904, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday.....

In the Wolverhampton Division, the following houses were scheduled.....

JOLLY COLLIER, New Invention, Short Heath, beerhouse (ante-1869), *Charles Peace*.....

With regard to the JOLLY COLLIER at New Invention, Mr. Lawrence said that after the justices decided to report the house, and when the question of arranging with various owners as to compensation came to be discussed, it was found that a very substantial trade was done at the house, and that the compensation to be awarded would be very considerable. Consequently the justices came to the conclusion that it would not be well to proceed with the question of refusing the renewal of the licence. Mr. Willcock, in applying for the renewal, said he submitted to the magistrates the claims for compensation which would have been made in the case, based upon Mr. Justice Kennedy’s decision, and he was not at all surprised at the learned counsel’s statement. The house had been licensed for over 65 years, and had been in the present tenant’s family for 26 years. Superintendent Spendlove said the justices’ report stated that there were three licensed houses quite close together, and on viewing they considered that the JOLLY COLLIER should be referred. Mr. R. A. Harper, brewer, of Bilston, and owner of the house, gave evidence as to the trade done, and said the claim for compensation in the event of non-renewal was £2,347. The committee decided to renew this licence.”

Walsall Advertiser 19/3/1910

“Free Gardener’s Dinner. The twelfth annual honorary members invitation dinner to the Herbert Gladstone Lodge, JOLLY COLLIER INN, New Invention, was held on Saturday.....”

1911 Census

3, Essington Road, New Invention

- [1] *Charles Peace* (52), beerhouse keeper, born Essington;
- [2] *Myra Peace* (47), wife, married 26 years, assists in business, born Short Heath;
- [3] *Mary Ann Peace* (23), daughter, servant, born Essington;
- [4] *Betsy Ann Peace* (17), daughter, servant, born Essington;
- [5] *Charles William Peace* (13), son, school, born Essington;
- [6] *Gertrude Peace* (10), daughter, school, born Essington:

Charles Peace, beer retailer, Essington Road, New Invention. [1912]

Mrs. *M. Peace*, beer retailer, Essington Road, New Invention. [1932]

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

Closed

It was converted into a private house.

It was demolished in the early 1950s.

JOLLY COLLIER

31, High Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Cartwright [1860] – [1865]

William Cartwright [] – 1869;

Richard Fellows (1869 – [])

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/9/1860

“At the Petty Sessions on Monday, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq., Thomas Price, a corn dealer, living in New Road, Willenhall, charged *Joseph Cartwright*, beerhouse keeper, Portobello, with wanton and brutal cruelty to three ducks, his property. It seemed that the parties own adjoining tracts of land, and on Saturday week the defendant deliberately struck a pikel though three of Price’s ducks, pinning them to the ground. *Cartwright’s* defence was that the ducks were eating his corn in the field, but Price’s son, who witnessed the occurrence, swore that they were swimming in the ditch at the time, and that the mischief was purely cruel and wanton. The Magistrates fined the defendant 5s and the expenses, the fine to go to the complainant for the value of the ducks.”

Joseph Cartwright, beer retailer and grocer, High Street, Portobello. [1861], [1864], [1865]

1861 Census

31, High Street, Portobello – JOLLY COLLIER

- [1] *Joseph Cartwright* (46), publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Mary Ann Cartwright (43), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Mary Ann Cartwright (18), daughter, born Dudley;
- [4] Richard Cartwright (21), son, miner, stone, born Dudley;
- [5] *William Cartwright* (15), son, miner, stone, born Kingswinford;
- [6] Harriet Cartwright (9), daughter, scholar, born Kingswinford;
- [7] Emily Ann Cartwright (5), daughter, scholar, born Portobello;
- [8] Francis Cartwright (44), brother, miner, stone, born Ettingshall Lane;
- [9] Noah Cartwright (25), brother, miner, stoner, born Ettingshall Lane;
- [10] Richard Edwards (26), boarder, miner, stone, born Shrewsbury;
- [11] Henry Warman (36), boarder, colliery labourer, born Kidderminster;
- [12] Adelaide Warman (30), boarder, born Bridgnorth:

Joseph Cartwright, retailer of beer, Portobello. [1862]

Closed

JOLLY COLLIER

Knights Bridge, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was replaced by the JOLLY COLLIER, Lucknow Road.

JOLLY COLLIER

112, Lucknow Road, Ashmore Lake, Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Punch Taverns

LICENSEES

William Arthur Cox [1938] – **1941**);
Mrs. Annie Cox (**1941** – [1952]
E Palmer [1976] – [1983]
Roy Fuchco (**1992** – [1996]

NOTES

It was built in 1932 to replace the JOLLY COLLIER, Knights Bridge.

1939 Register

Lucknow Road – JOLLY COLLIER Public House

- [1] *William Cox*, date of birth 18/12/1895, licensee, married;
- [2] *Annie Cox*, dob 17/3/1890, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [4] *William Leeson*, dob 11/5/1918, tool setter, aircraft shop, single;
- [5] *Annie (Leeson) Johnson*, dob 29/9/1921, cylinder fixer, lock trade, single:

William Arthur Cox died in 1941.

Bilston and Willenhall Times 31/8/1946

“When Samuel David Cox (54), no fixed address, was charged at Willenhall on Monday with breaking into the JOLLY COLLIER INN, Lucknow Road, Short Heath, Willenhall, on July 30th and stealing 9s and two packets of potato crisps, Superintendent T. W. Taylor told the Court that finger prints were found on a piece of glass, which was sent to Scotland Yard, but as Cox had pleaded guilty it was not thought necessary to call an officer from London.

Annie Cox, a widow, who is the licensee of the public house, said that Cox was her brother in law, and for 12 months had lodged at the house.

PC Workman said when the warrant was read over to him, Cox said: ‘That’s right. I am guilty.’

Cox was committed to the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions for trial.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/10/1946

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions opened at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Tuesday, with a calendar described by the Chairman (Mr. Justice Wrottesley) as ‘very heavy and rather disturbing.’ There were 66 prisoners for trial in 36 cases, the majority of which concerned breaking and entering offences committed in the south of the county.....

Samuel David Cox (53), labourer, who pleaded guilty to house-breaking at Willenhall, was stated to have been bound over for three years for similar offences and theft at the June Sessions. He was sentenced to three years’ penal servitude, the Chairman observing that his breach of recognizance was taken into account.

Mr. F. W. Barnes, prosecuting, said the offence occurred at the JOLLY COLLIER INN, Lucknow Road, Short Heath, of which accused’s sister-in-law was licensee. The three offences for which Cox was bound over in June were also committed against his sister-in-law, who had previously befriended him. Counsel said she was now afraid of Cox, and, living without a man in the house, was terrified to go to bed when he was loose in the district.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/2/1966

“Coun. Reg Wrighton answered a knock at his front door yesterday morning to find £100 waiting for him. The money was collected by customers of the JOLLY COLLIER public house, Willenhall, and was handed to Coun. Wrighton to buy beverages for the sick and housebound old people of the area.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/11/1967

“A cheque for £100 was presented last night to the West Midlands Society for the Blind by patrons of the JOLLY COLLIER public house, Willenhall. This was the third cheque for the same amount given by the customers.”

Alterations were made in 1977.

Roy Fuchco was married to Nadine.

[2016]

JOLLY COLLIER

WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Smith [1862]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1862

“County licensing meeting held on Thursday last There were no licenses suspended, but the following publicans were reprimanded for misconduct in the management of their houses during the last twelve months *William Smith*, the JOLLY COLLIER, Willenhall As promises of amendment were made for the future, the licenses were again renewed.”

JOLLY COLLIERS

Cannon Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Turner [1859]

NOTES

London Gazette 28/2/1860

“WHEREAS a Petition of *John Turner*, at present and for about two months now last past residing in lodgings at Emma Coopers Green-lane, Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford, in no business or occupation, previously and for seven months residing at the JOLLY COLLIERS, Cannon-street, Willenhall, in the said county of Stafford, Retail Brewer and Dealer in Tobacco, previously and for about twelve months residing at the GRAND STAND, Horsley-fields, Wolverhampton, in the said county of Stafford, Retail Brewer and Dealer in Tobacco, an insolvent debtor having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at the Court-house, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *John Turner*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *John Turner* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 19th of March next, at ten in the forenoon, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *John Turner*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, in Queen-street, Wolverhampton, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

JUNCTION

16, (11), (14), Fletchers Lane, Shepwell Green, (The Crescent, Chapel Green), (Crescent), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mrs. Sarah Groves [1859] – [1870]
William Storer [1871]
Richard Edwards [1873] – **1875**;
Owen Nicholls (1875 – []
Mrs. Hannah Titley [1891] – [1892]
John Halford [1896]
Arthur Pointon [1901] – [1911]
James Vawer [1912] – [1916]
Mrs. Annie M Vawer [1921] – [1932]
Edward Walker [1940]

NOTES

The Crescent [1860], [1868], [1875]
14 Fletchers Lane [1871]
11, Fletchers Lane [1881], [1901], [1908]
16, Fletchers Lane [1912], [1932], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Sarah Groves = Sarah Glover = Sarah Grove

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting for the renewal of Victuallers’ licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for licenses, for the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. Duignan applied, on behalf of Mrs. *Sarah Groves*, of Chapel Green, in the parish of Willenhall, for a license for the JUNCTION INN, now occupied by her. In support of the application Mr. Duignan stated that the house was situated at the junction of four roads, upon the main turnpike road from Walsall to Bilston; it was surrounded by collieries, and within the last seven or eight years the number of houses in that immediate neighbourhood had greatly increased. The applicant, who was a widow, had, in conjunction with her late husband, carried on the house for eight years without a single complaint having been made as to the manner in which the house had been conducted. The nearest public houses to the house of the applicant were distant two and a half miles on the one side and a mile and a half on the other. A testimonial signed by a number of the most respectable residents at Willenhall was also handed in in favour of the applicant.

Mr. Underhill said he was instructed by Mr. William Simcox to apply for a license to another house in that immediate neighbourhood, and although he said he was not about to oppose the application just made by Mr. Duignan yet he would ask the Magistrates to hear this application before they decided in the former case. The present applicant’s house was his own property, and had been erected at a cost of upwards of £530, and was by far the most commodious house in that locality for the purpose of an old licensed establishment. Mr. Underhill then argued the requirements of the locality necessitated another licensed house in the neighbourhood, and concluded by handing in a letter from Messrs. Jeavons and Co. in favour of the applicant.

The Bench determined to withhold their decision until the adjourned licensing day, and in the meantime they will view the premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1860

“At about two o’clock on Saturday morning, Police-constable Allcock was patrolling his beat when he heard a dog making an unusual noise on the premises of Mr. David Chesney, of Birmingham Street. Upon hastening to the spot he found three men running away. The officer felled one of them with his truncheon, and pursued the rest, but without success. Returning to the prostrate man he found in his possession a dark lantern, and a pair of women’s light shoes, the latter evidently intended for the purpose to which goloshes are usually put by burglars. This man proved to be *Moses Groves*, a well-known beerhouse keeper, of Willenhall. Allcock went Wolverhampton on Saturday afternoon and having communicated his suspicions as to who were the other two men, Police-constables Beuley and Mellburn arrested in a gin shop two well-known members of the ‘long company,’ and they were conveyed in custody to Willenhall, where, with *Groves*, they will be taken before the Magistrates today (Monday).”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/9/1860

“Yesterday, at the Petty Sessions, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and Captain Gough, *Moses Groves*, John Evans, and James Pearson were brought up on remand charged with breaking into a stable, at Willenhall, attached to the residence of David Chesney, of the Bilston Road, at about two in the morning of the 25th August. It will be remembered that Police-constable Allcock saw *Groves* and two others leaving the stable, knocked *Groves* down, and found a dark lantern and a pair of women’s boots in his possession. The other two men escaped. On the same afternoon he arrested Evans and Pearson in a gin shop in Wolverhampton. He could swear that Evans was one of the men, and he was nearly sure that Pearson was another. Pearson’s shoes corresponded with the footprints around the stable, as did also those of *Groves*. All the men were of indifferent character, and are known to be friends. The case had been remanded till yesterday for the presence of William Webb, a butty miner, of the Crescent, who deposed that he

had known them for ten years. On Friday, the 24th of August, at about half-past nine in the evening, he saw John Evans cross the road leading to the prisoner *Groves's* house, in Willenhall. There were three men with him, walking three or four yards in advance of Evans, but he did not know who they were. Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Cresswell appeared for the prisoners, and maintained there was no evidence against Pearson, in favour of whom, if necessary, they were prepared to prove an alibi. The Magistrates did not require that such evidence should be given, as they had determined to discharge him, but *Groves* and Evans must be committed for trial at the Sessions. On the application of the solicitors the Bench consented to accept bail for these two prisoners, each two sureties in £20.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/10/1860

“*Moses Groves* and James Evans were indicted for unlawfully attempting to break into a dwelling house occupied by David Chesney, at Willenhall, with intent to commit a felony. Mr. Young was for the prosecution, Mr. Claydon for the prisoners. The case against the prisoners was, that early on the morning of August 25th, the Police-officer James Allcock saw three men running away from the house of the prosecutor, and on following them he secured *Groves*, and Evans was taken the same day at Willenhall, the other man escaping. On searching the premises it was found that the stable door had been broken open, but nothing was missed. The boots of *Groves* were compared with footmarks, and found to correspond. An objection was taken on behalf of the prisoner that as the place attempted to be entered was a stable and not a dwelling house, the case could not be proceeded with, and the objection being held valid, the prisoner was acquitted.”

Moses Groves, beer retailer, Crescent. [1861]

1861 Census

Chapel Green

- [1] *Sarah Groves* (51), widow, innkeeper, born Darlaston;
- [2] Ann Haderly (11), niece, born Darlaston;
- [3] Catherine Turner (18), house servant, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1862

“County licensing meeting held on Thursday last There were no licenses suspended, but the following publicans were reprimanded for misconduct in the management of their houses during the last twelve months *Sarah Glover*, the JUNCTION INN, Willenhall As promises of amendment were made for the future, the licenses were again renewed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/10/1862

“At the Police Court on Monday last, Mrs. *Sarah Groves*, JUNCTION INN, Crescent, was fined 5s and costs for keeping open her house at illegal hours on the Wake Sunday morning. It was attempted to be shown, in defence, that the police officers who laid the information were mistaken in supposing that a girl whom they met in the street with a jug of ale in her hand, had got it from the defendant's house. Witnesses were called to show that the ale had been fetched from one of Mrs. *Groves's* neighbours, but the testimony was so contradictory that the Magistrates could place no reliance on it, and they felt compelled to inflict a penalty.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“County Licensing Meeting, in Wolverhampton.

A special Petty Sessions, for the purpose of renewing and the granting of licenses to public-houses within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, was held at the Police Court, in Bilston Street, on Thursday.....

The following is the list of those who had been reported and fined during the past year for offences against their licenses.....

Sarah Groves, the Crescent, of the Bug Hole, Willenhall.....

They were now cautioned as to their future conduct, and their licenses were then renewed.”

1871 Census

14, Fletchers Lane, Shepwell Green – public house

- [1] *William Storer* (31), rim lock maker, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Eliza Storer (38), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Ellen Storer (4), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Thomas Storer (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Mary Ann Storer (7 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Maria Butler (76), mother in law, widow, born Shropshire;
- [7] Thomas Burrows (26), boarder, bolt maker, born Willenhall;
- [8] Elizabeth Burrows (21), boarder, wife, born Willenhall;
- [9] Anne Burrows (1), boarder, daughter, born Willenhall:

Midland Examiner 2/10/1875

“The following licenses were permanently transferred.....

JUNCTION INN, Crescent, Willenhall, from the administratrix of the late *Richard Edwards* to *Owen Nicholls*.”

1881 Census

11, Fletchers Lane – JUNCTION INN

- [1] Ann Kershaw (57), sister in law, housekeeper, born Oakengates;
- [2] Owen N. Sleigh (15), nephew, pupil teacher, born Willenhall;
- [3] Charles M. Bradley (17), general domestic servant, born Dunstable:

1891 Census

Shepwell Green – JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Hannah Titley* (34), publican, born Aston, Staffordshire;
- [2] Thomas Titley (39), husband, general labourer, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] John T. Titley (14), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] William A. Titley (6), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Fanny Jervis (21), sister, general servant, born Sambrook, Shropshire;
- [6] Herbert Goodwin (25), boarder, railway servant, born Sambrook, Shropshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1896

“*John Halford*, JUNCTION INN, Fletchers Lane, Willenhall, was summoned for allowing gambling on his premises on two dates. The defendant played at cards for beer with men who were in the house on both dates. For one date, he was fined £3 and costs, and 20s and costs for the other.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/5/1900

“Yesterday the body of *Annie Pearman* (17), whose parents reside in Whitehall Road, Walsall, was found in the Birmingham Canal between Bentley and Willenhall. Deceased who had been employed as a domestic servant by Mrs. Tombs, of New Street, had been missing since the 21st inst., when she was sent on an errand to a laundry on the Birmingham Road, which is several miles from where her body was afterwards discovered. No information regarding the girl’s movements could be ascertained from the time she visited the laundry. The body was removed to the JUNCTION INN, Willenhall, to await an inquest.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/6/1900

“On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. T. A. Stokes, district coroner, held an inquest at the JUNCTION INN, Willenhall, respecting the death of *Annie Isles Pearman* (17), whose stepfather and mother lived in Whitehall Road, Walsall. The girl was found drowned in the Birmingham Canal at Bentley, on Sunday morning. She had been missing since the previous Monday. *Francis Pearman*, stepfather of the deceased, said that she had been in domestic service. She attended church regularly, and had been confirmed. *Sarah Pearman*, mother of the deceased, said the latter had not been comfortable in her situation. She was the daughter of a man named Isles, but witness did not know who Isles was or what his full name was. *Margaret Tombs*, New Street, Walsall, said the deceased was in her employ for six weeks. After she had been with her a short time witness’s husband said that the girl would not suit them, as she always had a Prayer-book in her hand. Deceased was melancholy, and would sit and read the Prayer-book for two hours at a time. The girl would never laugh, except when witness told her funny tales. Witness had never ill-treated her. She had found deceased in bed with her clothes and boots on twice. *George Gould*, farm labourer, Walsall Road, Darlaston, spoke to finding the body floating in the canal. Police Inspector *Oakden* said the Walsall police had circulated a report that the girl was missing, and that information led to her identification. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased Committed Suicide whilst Temporarily Insane.”

1901 Census

11, Fletchers Lane

- [1] *Arthur Pointon* (42), licensed victualler, born Shifnal, Shropshire;
- [2] *Eliza Pointon* (48), wife, born Stirchley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Kate Bucknall* (21), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

Fletchers Lane – The JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Arthur Pointon* (52), licensed victualler, born Shifnal, Shropshire;
- [2] *Eliza Pointon* (59), wife, married 28 years, born Stirchley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Rose Ayres* (19), servant, born Willenhall:

Arthur Pointon – see also HOLLY BUSH.

KING CHARLES IN THE OAK

28, Charles Street, (Willenhall Road), Sandbeds, Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Forrester [1851] – 1862);
James Walker Jnr (1862 – [1863]
Thomas Allden [1864] – 1866);
John Brooks (1866 – [1874]
John Mills [] – 1881);
Thomas Tonks (1881 – []
Thomas Hatton [1891] – [1892]
William Millington [1896]
William Morris [1900]
Hiram Jones [1900]
Benjamin Whitehouse [1904]
Joseph John Moseley [1908] – [1921]
Mrs. Georgina Moseley [1932]
Frederick Washbrook [1940]
P J Parker [1983]

NOTES

KING CHARLES [1851], [1891]
KING CHARLES IN THE OAK [1860], [1862], [1868]
CHARLES IN THE OAK [1863], [1864], [1866], [1881]
KING CHARLES IN THE OAK TREE [1869]
KING CHARLES OAK [1892], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1932], [1940]

John Forrester = John Forrister = John Forester

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

“At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division, Seisdon North, held yesterday.....
The license of the CHARLES IN THE OAK, Mr. *J. Walker*, Sand Beds, was also renewed. A conviction was recorded against this applicant for having his house open on a Sunday, in March last, when he was fined 1s and ordered to pay costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“County Licensing Meeting, in Wolverhampton.
A special Petty Sessions, for the purpose of renewing and the granting of licenses to public-houses within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, was held at the Police Court, in Bilston Street, on Thursday.....
The following is the list of those who had been reported and fined during the past year for offences against their licenses.....
James Walker, the CHARLES IN THE OAK, Sandbeds.....
They were now cautioned as to their future conduct, and their licenses were then renewed.”

London Gazette 16/9/1864

“*James Walker* the younger, of Pool Hayes, in the parish of Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Farm Labourer, previously of the KING CHARLES AND THE OAK INN, Sand Beds, Willenhall aforesaid, Victualler, Retail Brewer, and Licensed to deal in Tobacco, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, on the 9th day of September, 1864, is hereby required to surrender himself to Charles Gallimore Brown, Esq., a Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 29th day of September instant, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely, at the said Court. Charles Gallimore Brown, Esq., of Wolverhampton, is the Official Assignee, and M. Stratton, of Wolverhampton, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Thomas Allden = Thomas Alldin

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1864

“The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans for the Wolverhampton Division of Seisdon North, was held yesterday, at the County Police Court, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.....
The following persons were cautioned.....
Thomas Alldin, of the CHARLES IN THE OAK, Willenhall, who had been fined for selling liquor on a Sunday.”

John Brooks = John Brookes

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/6/1866

“On Monday, at the Police Court, before the sitting magistrates.....

John Brooks, the landlord of the KING CHARLES IN THE OAK, at the Sandbeds, was fined £2 and costs, for selling ale during illegal hours. It seemed that on Sunday last, Police-constables Dutton and Leek concealed themselves in an out house near to the defendant's premises. At about half-past six o'clock, a.m. they saw six men enter the house, and, upon themselves going in, they found five men in one room with two glasses of gin before them, whilst the landlord was in the bar filling other glasses.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/6/1866

“*John Brookes*, publican, of the Sand Beds, Willenhall, was on Monday last, fined 10s and costs, on the information of Police-constable Dutton, for having his house open for the sale of beer, at half-past seven on Sunday morning.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/9/1866

“On Monday last the licenses of George Tarbuck, publican, and *John Brooks*, the CHARLES IN THE OAK, the New Invention, which were suspended at the last licensing day, in consequence of the occupiers having been fined for infringing the regulations – were again renewed with a caution from the Magistrates to conduct their houses better in future.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/7/1869 - Advert

“Mining, Building and Accommodation Land, Houses, Taverns, &c. (Freehold and Copyhold), in Willenhall (first portion of the Estates of Thomas Hincks Esq., deceased), by direction of the Vice-Chancellor, Sir John Stuart, under the Order dated the 31st of July, 1868, in *Turton v Barber*.

Mr. Henry Weirland Greaser will Sell, at the ROYAL GEORGE, in Willenhall, on Friday, September 17, 1869, at five o'clock precisely.....

The said lots comprise the KING CHARLES IN THE OAK TREE Public-house.....

17 Houses and Shops (including the WATER GLADE INN and the ROYAL GEORGE INN, at Water Glade).....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates' office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

John Brooks, KING CHARLES IN OAK, Spring Bank, fined 40s and costs for selling during prohibited hours, and 10s and costs for a similar offence on another occasion.”

1871 Census

Sandbeds – KING CHARLES IN THE OAK

- [1] *John Brooks* (46), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Caroline Brooks (40), wife, born Betwas, Shropshire;
- [3] Aaron Brooks (5), son, scholar, born Essington;
- [4] Jacob Brooks (3), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Enoch Brooks (1), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] Mary Bailey (16), general servant, born Bilston:

London Gazette 10/9/1880

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John Brookes*, of Sandbeds, near Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Victualler and Farmer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. George Vaughan, Solicitor, 18, Walsall-street, Willenhall aforesaid, on the 23rd day of September, 1880, at eleven o'clock in the fore-noon precisely.

Dated this 7th day of September, 1880.

George Vaughan, 18, Walsall-street, Willenhall, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

1881 Census

4, Sandbeds – KING CHARLES IN THE OAK

- [1] *John Mills* (34), widower, publican and lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [2] Isaac Waine (24), visitor, lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [3] William Burford (41), visitor, master carpenter, born Bradeley:

Thomas Tonks was also a lock maker. [1881]

1891 Census

Willenhall Road – KING CHARLES INN

- [1] *Thomas Hatton* (28), publican and locksmith, born Willenhall;

- [2] Harriet Hatton (27), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Harriet Elizabeth Hatton (7), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Thomas Hatton (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Alice Hatton (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Jane Hatton (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] Clara Hatton (2 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] Thomas Tonk (67), boarder, widower, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [9] Charles Tonk (28), boarder, key stamper, born Willenhall;
- [10] Ada Tonk (10), boarder, born Willenhall;
- [11] Rose Boyden (18), general servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 16/1/1900

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Hiram Jones*, landlord of the KING CHARLES AND THE OAK INN, Sandbeds, was fined 10s and the costs for keeping his house open during prohibited hours.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/8/1900

“At Wolverhampton County Licensing Sessions yesterday.....
Opposition to the renewal of their licenses had been served on *Hiram Jones*, of the KING CHARLES IN THE OAK INN, Short Heath on the ground of convictions adjourned.”

1911 Census

Charles Street, Short Heath

- [1] *Joseph John Moseley* (47), licensed victualler, born Lane Head;
- [2] Georgina Moseley (47), wife, married 18 years, assisting in business, born Lane Head;
- [3] May Gregory (11), niece, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Herbert Beddows (42), boarder, brickmaker, born Great Bridge:

South Staffordshire Times 14/2/1920

“County Licensing Sessions.....

The licenses of the TALBOT INN, Heath Town, KING CHARLES IN THE OAK, Short Heath, and an out-door beer license on the Prestwood Road, Heath Town, kept by Mrs. Leek, which the police objected to, were renewed.”

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

Closed

It became FONTANA’S restaurant.

KINGS ARMS

Walsall Street, (Walsall Road), (Church Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

- W Badger* [1822]
- William Badger* [1828] – [1839]
- John Warltire [1841] – [1842]
- William Jacks [1845] – **1850**;
- William Granger (**1850 – 1851**);
- Emanuel Fereday (**1851**);
- John Simcox (**1851** – [1861]
- Letitia Simcox [] – **1862**);
- William Dabbs (**1862** – [1865]
- Isaiah Kendrick [1868] – [1870]

NOTES

Walsall Road [1834], [1851], [1864], [1870]

Walsall Street [1830], [1842], [1845], [1849], [1850], [1851], [1861], [1864]
Church Street [1830], [1835]

KINGS ARMS COMMERCIAL INN [1845], [1849]

* possibly the same person

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1831 - Advert

“To Be Let With Immediate Possession.

All that well-accustomed Public House situate in Willenhall, in the county of Stafford; rental moderate; the occupier of which is declining business on account of ill health.

The Stock-in-Trade and Fixtures to be taken to at a fair valuation, and possession of the house may be immediately obtained. Apply personally, or by letter, post-paid, to Mr. Thomas Badger, on the premises; or to Mr. *William Badger*, KINGS ARMS INN, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/10/1836 - Advert

“Farming Stock, Rick of Hay, Rick of Clover, &c. at Willenhall.

To be Sold by Auction, by J. Turner, on Monday the 24th day of October, 1836, at the house of Mr. *William Badger*, KINGS ARMS INN, Willenhall.

The Farming Stock of the late deceased Mr. Richard Collyer, Farmer and Baker, comprising four capital cows in-calf, two heifers in-calf, one yearling, one excellent well-ended rick of hay, one rick of clover in good condition.

The sale to commence at twelve o'clock under the usual conditions.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/2/1839 - Advert

“Freehold Buildings and Land, at Willenhall.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. W. Parkes, at the House of Mr. *W. Badger*, the KINGS ARMS INN, Willenhall, on Friday, the 8th day of February, 1839, at four o'clock in the afternoon.....”

1841 Census

Walsall Street

[1] *John Warltire* (30), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Ealenor Warltire* (34), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Joseph Warltire* (8), born Staffordshire;

[4] *James Smith* (25), army;

[5] *Sarah Smith* (25);

[6] *Rebeckah Cooper* (17), fs, born Staffordshire:

William Jacks = *William Jack*

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/9/1850 - Advert

“KINGS ARMS, Willenhall.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that old-established Public House, known by the KINGS ARM, situate in Church Street, Willenhall. The stock, fixtures, brewing utensils, &c., to be taken at a valuation.

Apply on the premises.”

Emanuel Fereday was also a painter and glazier. [1851]

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/10/1851

“At the County Petty Sessions, held on Monday last, the following transfers of victuallers' licenses took place....

From *Emanuel Fereday*, KINGS ARMS, Willenhall, to *John Simcox*, of Willenhall, file maker.”

London Gazette 21/11/1851

“Whereas a Petition of *Emanuel Fereday*, at present and for three weeks now last past residing in lodgings in Littles-lane, in Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford, out of business, and for six months previously thereto residing at the KINGS ARMS INN, in Walsall-street, Willenhall, in the county aforesaid, carrying on there the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, and Plumber and Glazier, and for two years previous thereto residing at the SARACENS HEAD INN, in Little London, near Willenhall aforesaid, carrying on there the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, and Plumber and Glazier, and for six months previously thereto residing in Bell-street, in Wolverhampton aforesaid, carrying on there the trade or business of a Plumber and Glazier, and for six months previous thereto residing at the GIFFARDS ARMS Inn, at Codsall Wood, in the parish of Codsall, in the county of Stafford aforesaid, carrying on there the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at the Courthouse, Queen-street, at Wolverhampton, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Emanuel Fereday*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Emanuel Fereday* is hereby required to appear before Nathaniel Richard Clarke, Esq. Serjeant at Law, the Judge of the said Court, on the 25th of November instant, at twelve at noon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and

effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Emanuel Fereday*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, Clerk of the said Court, at his office, in Queen-street, Wolverhampton, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent."

Emanuel Fereday – see also SARACENS HEAD.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/7/1858

"On Monday and yesterday (Tuesday), the members of the following societies partook of their annual feasts at the inns at Willenhall or Portobello, where they respectively hold their meetings, namely the Lodge of Loyal Britons, at the KINGS ARMS."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/7/1858

"On Monday last the members of the Willenhall lodge of Benevolent Loyal Britons assembled at their lodge room, at the KINGS ARMS INN, Willenhall, from whence they formed in procession, and headed by a band of music, marched through the town to the Wesleyan Chapel, where a sermon was preached by brother William Neeshen, president of the Society. After the service they returned to the Inn, where an excellent dinner had been provided by host *Simcox*. The report read by the secretary showed that there was a balance in hand of upwards of £200."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/8/1859

"There are few small towns that possess so many provident societies, so well supported by the working classes, for whose benefit they are especially intended, as are to be found at Willenhall, a fact which must be considered as indicative of the frugal habits of the inhabitants. On Monday no fewer than five of these societies or clubs held their annual anniversaries.....

The members of Lodge No.1 of Benevolent Loyal Women met at the house of Mr. *John Simcox*, the KINGS ARMS, Walsall Street, where they dined together after the manner of the Benevolent Loyal Men, and asserted their loyalty and independence in equally strong terms."

John Simcox was also a file manufacturer. [1860]

1861 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *John Simcox* (50), inn keeper employing 2 men & 2 boys, born Tipton;
- [2] *Letitia Simcox* (45), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Josiah Simcox* (20), son, file maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Enoch Simcox* (18), son, grocers apprentice, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Lydia Simcox* (15), daughter, dressmakers apprentice, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Ann Simcox* (13), daughter, bar maid, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Thomas Mapshall* (62), hostler JS, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Josiah Whitehouse* (36), car driver JS, born Wiggington, Oxford;
- [9] *John Minton* (18), file makers apprentice, born Wolverhampton;
- [10] *William Becall* (39), boarder, gentleman, born Weym, Shropshire;
- [11] *Joseph Faulkner* (30), boarder, lockmaker, born Tamworth, Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/11/1861 - Advert

"To Be Let, all the old-licensed and well-established Public House called the KINGS ARMS INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, consisting of bar, parlour, two kitchens, six bedrooms, club room, brewhouse, cellars, two stables, coach house, shop, shed, and two large yards. There are two good clubs held in the house. The above is being given up in consequence of the ill health of the proprietor.

For further particulars apply on the premises."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/5/1862

"At the County Petty Sessions, held in this town, on Monday last the following licenses were transferred that of the KINGS ARMS, Willenhall, from *Letitia Simcox*, widow, to *William Dabbs*, butcher, of Bilston."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/8/1866

"Thomas Constable, a miner, living at Willenhall, was charged, on Monday last, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher, and R. D. Gough, Esq., with stealing a fowl. Henry Fenton, a carrier, stated that the prisoner was in the habit of sleeping in a hay loft at the KINGS ARMS INN, Walsall Street, and on Friday, the 27th ult., witness went into the hay loft to cut some chaff for his horses, accompanied by the prisoner. While he was moving some trusses of hay he found a dead fowl underneath, and turned round and asked the prisoner 'Whatever brought this fowl there?' to which he replied 'I know nothing about it.' Witness remarked 'Some one must know about it,' and prisoner replied 'Well, you might think it's me; but I think the fowl is William's (prosecutor's)'. Accordingly witness took it to prosecutor, who is an assistant to Mr. Sansom, druggist, and asked if he had lost a fowl. He said that he had, and identified the one shown him, and gave the prisoner, who seemed very excited about the affair, into custody. Police-constable Rumney proved apprehending the prisoner, and stated that in his pockets he found a quantity of feathers corresponding with those of the stolen fowl. Prisoner was sentenced to two months' hard labour."

London Gazette 9/6/1868

“Bankrupts..... Elizabeth Fereday, of The Crescent, out of business, previously of the KINGS ARMS INN, Walsall Street, both in Willenhall, Stafford, licensed victualler.”

Isaiah Kendrick = Isaiah Kenrick

He was also a scrap iron dealer. [1868], [1870]

Closed

KINGS HEAD

91, Stafford Street / 1, Wolverhampton Street, (Market Place), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Messrs Plant and Son

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Phillips [1818]

John Ford [1822] – [1830]

William Rawlett [1833] – [1851]

Richard Silk [1851] – **1863**;

George Morgan (**1863** – [1865])

James Hugh [1866]

Charles Walters [1868] – [1881]

Frederick Plant [1892] – [1896]

Samuel Harrison [1901] – [1911]

William Edward Gold [1912] – [1916]

Mrs. Claribel Gold [1921]

Joseph B Male [1932]

Mrs. Edith Male [1939] – [1940]

George Peach [1944]

NOTES

1, Wolverhampton Street [1818], [1868], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1916], [1932], [1939], [1940]

Wolverhampton Street [1830], [1842], [1849], [1850], [1851], [1862]

Stafford Street [1860]

91, Stafford Street [1891], [1892], [1896]

OLD KINGS HEAD [1860]

Coaches left from here. [1818], [1852]

John Phillips was also a lock and key manufacturer. [1818]

William Rawlett was also a whitesmith. [1833]

Richard Silk married Eleanor Rowlett in the 3rd quarter of 1837.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/12/1839 - Notice

“One Guinea Reward.

Abandoned, on the 22nd of November last, Peter Green, an apprentice to Mr. *William Rawlett*, whitesmith, of the KINGS HEAD, Willenhall. The said Peter Green is about 5 feet 7 inches high, 20 years of age, and has a round face and dark hair; he had on a

close barragon jacket and striped trousers.

Whoever will apprehend him, or give such information as shall cause his apprehension to Thomas Phillips, constable, Willenhall, shall receive One Guinea Reward.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/9/1845

“South Staffordshire General Hospital. Wolverhampton, September 9, 1845.

The Donations and Subscriptions towards the establishment and support of the above Institution, received to this day, as follows.....

Good Intent Lodge of the Original Wolverhampton Order of Odd Fellows, held at the KINGS HEAD INN, Willenhall, £3 0s 0d.”

William Rawlett was also described as a manufacturer of box iron stands. [1849], [1850]

1851 Census

Stafford Street

[1] *William Rawlett* (62), victualler and bolt maker employing 6 men, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Ann Rawlett* (57), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *Mary Ann Rawlett Silk* (12), granddaughter, visitor, born Willenhall;

[4] *Ellen Silk* (32), daughter, visitor, born Willenhall;

[5] *Mary Cooper* (19), house servant, born Willenhall;

[6] *Hannah Knowles* (15), house servant, born Willenhall;

[7] *George Wolverston* (20), apprentice, born Willenhall;

[8] *William Morgan* (18), apprentice, born Willenhall;

[9] *George Stone* (17), apprentice, born Willenhall;

[10] *Henry Crutchley* (13), apprentice, born Rudgeley, Staffordshire:

William Rawlett died in the 2nd quarter of 1851.

Richard Silk was also a manufacturer of stamps, presses etc. [1851]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

The license of *Richard Silk*, of the OLD KINGS HEAD INN, Willenhall, was suspended, on the ground that he had refused to admit the police to his house, and had since used improper language towards one of the officers, which he denied.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/12/1854

“*David Brosley*, *Robert Bridgwood*, and *William Summerford*, were charged with assaulting *Eleanor Silk*, landlady of the KINGS HEAD. It appears that a benefit club, Lodge No.4, of the Benevolent Loyal Britons, was held at the above house, and on Tuesday night, the brethren impugned the quality of brother *Silk*'s drink, and the upshot was that brother *Summerford* walked off bodily with the box, in the resisting of which Mrs. *Silk* alleged that she was assaulted. It being shown during the evidence that the box had been removed on the authority of the officers, they were informed by the clerk that they could not remove it from the custody of Mr. *Silk*, who is the treasurer of the club, without the authority of a special meeting of the members. The assault being one of a trivial character only, the defendants were simply ordered to pay the expenses, 11s each.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/6/1857

“At the Police Office, on Thursday, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq., Mr. *Richard Silk*, retail brewer, was charged with allowing gambling in his house on the 15th instant. Police-constable *Eyre* visited the house at about nine o'clock, and found four men playing at dominoes, which one of them stated was for a quart of beer. Mr. *Underhill*, for the defence, called one of the persons who was playing, who stated that neither the defendant nor his wife were aware of the introduction of dominoes into their house, or of their being used. Mr. *Underhill* also quoted an opinion of Lord *Campbell*'s, to the effect that playing at dominoes did not constitute gambling unless money was staked. Mr. *Fisher* said he considered that playing for money's worth was equivalent to playing for money, and fined the defendant 2s 6d and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

“The annual licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton division of North Seisdon was held in the county magistrates' room, Bilston Street, this day.....

Mr. *Motteram*, of the Oxford Circuit, applied on behalf of Mr. *Hincks* for a renewal of a license to the OLD ANGEL INN, Willenhall. The application was opposed by Mr. *H. Underhill* for Mr. *Silk*, of the KING' HEAD INN, on the ground that the business was being carried on at a gin shop twenty-seven yards from the site of the OLD ANGEL, which the applicant averred he would rebuild as soon as he could settle with Mr. *York*, the trustee of adjoining property, as to the pulling down of the gable. The renewal was granted.

The license to Mr. *Silk* for the KINGS HEAD, Willenhall, was also renewed, the opposition of Mr. *Motteram* being withdrawn.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“.....Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mr. *Silk* for a license to a house occupied by him near the house of the former applicant. Mr. Motteram said he was instructed to oppose the application for one of the neighbours living next door to Mr. *Silk*, the opposition being that the house was conducted in a very disorderly manner, and was a great nuisance to the neighbourhood. The opposition was not pressed, and the Bench granted the application.”

1861 Census

Stafford Street

- [1] *Richard Silk* (48), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Eleanor Silk* (42), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Hannah Victoria Silk* (21), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Eleanor Silk* (12), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Louisa Rawlett Silk* (10), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *William Richard Silk* (7), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Rawlett Henry Silk* (3 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Samuel Millett* (40), lodger, locksmith, born Birmingham;
- [9] *Thomas Millett* (45), lodger, locksmith, born Birmingham;
- [10] *Richard Jukes* (50), lodger, brick maker, born Newtown, Montgomeryshire:

London Gazette 30/6/1863

“Bankrupts..... *Richard Silk*, of Willenhall, Stafford, licensed victualler and jobbing smith.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/7/1863

“The following transfers were ordered at the County Petty Sessions.....

The licence of the KINGS HEAD, Willenhall, was transferred from *Richard Silk* to *George Mason*, butcher, of the same place.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 24/12/1864 - Deaths

“On the 20th inst., after a painful illness, Mr. *George Morgan*, late of the KINGS HEAD, Stafford Street, Willenhall, and brother to the late Mr. William Morgan, maltster, of Bilston.”

1871 Census

1, Wolverhampton Street

- [1] *Charles Walters* (50), lock manufacturer employs 2 men and 2 boys, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Jane Walters* (45), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Alfred Isaac Walters* (21), son, lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Charles Walters* (17), son, carpenter and joiner, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Henry B. Walters* (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Clara M. Walters* (19), daughter, domestic at home, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Joseph Walters* (52), brother, annuitant, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Elizabeth Parder* (21), domestic servant, born Liverpool:

Charles Walters was also an iron padlock manufacturer of Wolverhampton Street. [1872], [1873]

He was described as a padlock maker. [1868]

Midland Counties Evening Express 29/12/1874

“Mr. *Charles Walters*, licensed victualler, of this town [Willenhall], was charged with having, on the 22nd of December, unlawfully permitted drunkenness to take place on his premises, and Benjamin Guy, chartermaster and maltster, of Darlaston, was charged with having been found drunk upon the said premises Police-constable Ainsworth stated that at half past eleven o'clock on the evening in question, he saw a horse and trap standing at the door of Mr. *Walters's* public house. His suspicions were excited, it then being after hours, and having gained admittance he went in, and in a private apartment at the back of the liquor shop he saw the landlord and Mr. Guy drinking together. There were two bottles of champagne on the table. Mr. Guy was drunk, that he was sure. Mr. *Walters* had kept his house for 15 years, during which time there had never been a complaint made against him. After the Bench had consulted together, Mr. [R. D.] Gough said that there were some doubts in the minds of the Bench in reference to the case, and they should, therefore, dismiss the summons.”

1881 Census

91, Stafford Street – A Public house

- [1] *Charles Walters* (60), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Jane Walters* (55), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Clara Walters* (27), daughter, waitress, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Charles Walters* (25), son, carpenter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Fanny Walters* (21), daughter, waitress, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Henry Walters* (18), son, no trade, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Joseph Walters* (63), brother, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Winifred Lynch* (26), domestic servant, born Willenhall;

[9] Ann Hadley (42), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

[Darlaston Weekly Times 15/12/1883 - Advert](#)

“Wines and Spirits for Christmas.

H. Plant and Sons, Wholesale Wine and Spirit Merchants, Market Place, Bilston, supply Wines and Spirits, well matured, to Families and the Trade at very reasonable prices.

Wholesale and Family orders may be left at any of the following Branch Establishments.....

KINGS HEAD, Market Place, Willenhall.....

H. P. & S. will be glad to forward to the Trade, in bond or duty paid, samples or prices.”

1891 Census

91, Stafford Street – KINGS HEAD INN

[1] *James Vernon* (44), licensed victualler, born Madeley, Shropshire;

[2] Emma Vernon (43), wife, born Bilston;

[3] Clara Biddlestone (16), niece, barmaid, born Bilston;

[4] Elizabeth Smith (17), general servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/8/1891

“At the County Petty Sessions, Wolverhampton, yesterday, an application was made for the transfer of the KINGS HEAD INN, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall, from Mr. Plant, of the firm Messrs. Plant and Son, wine and spirit merchants, to James Vernon. An application for the transfer to Vernon last week was refused, on the ground he would only be a manager.

Mr. Plant now submitted an agreement between his firm and Vernon by which he would become the bone fide tenant, at a rent of £104 per annum, to be paid at the rate of £2 per week; the occupant to be liable to a month’s notice at any time. In answer to the Bench, Mr. Plant said Vernon was not a man of means, but he had been a good servant, and they were willing to accept him as tenant.

The application was refused, on the ground he was not a proper person to transfer the license to.”

1901 Census

Stafford Street – KINGS HEAD

[1] *Samuel Harrison* (28), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;

[2] Sarah Jane Harrison (29), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Lily Harrison (4), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Theresa Birch (15), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

91, Stafford Street

[1] *Samuel Harrison* (39), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;

[2] Sarah Jane Harrison (39), wife, married 16 years, assists in business, born Willenhall;

[3] Lily Harrison (14), daughter, assists in business, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Samuel Harrison (4), son, born Willenhall;

[5] Alice Waldron (45), visitor, cousin, licensed victualler, born Darlaston;

[6] Tamar Mason (23), visitor, cousin assists in business, born Wakefield;

[7] Lucy Waldron (16), visitor, cousin, assists in business, born Wakefield:

[1939 Register](#)

1, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *Edith Male*, date of birth 12/2/1875, licensed victualler, widowed;

[2] Norman Male, dob 17/7/1909, foundry manager, single;

[3] Emma Dukes, dob 4/5/1883, housekeeper, married;

[4] Arthur Hollins, dob 27/2/1888, tailor, widowed:

Walsall Observer 18/3/1944

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held at the CRITERION HOTEL, Stafford Street, Walsall. Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair, and Mr. T. Hawkins (vice-president) the vice-chair. The President made sympathetic reference to the sudden death of the Magistrates’ Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton), and as a mark of respect the members stood for a short time in silence. Sympathy was also expressed with Mr. James Bird and his wife and Mrs. Garfield in their illnesses. Mr. *George Peach*, KINGS HEAD, Stafford Street, Willenhall, and Mr. Sidney Wood, of the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, were elected members of the committee. Mr. Herbert Dallow, of the OLD CROWN INN, Willenhall, was elected a member of the society. A message was read from Mr. M. F. Harrison, secretary, expressing his thanks and greetings for the kind wishes extended to him on the occasion of his 85th birthday. The arrangements made for the forthcoming charity ball on Friday May 19, were reported. The society is arranging to co-operate with the appeal of the Mayor in aid of the Red Cross and St. John Staffordshire appeal, and a box collection will shortly be made. The next meeting will be at the TIGER INN, Walstead Road, on April 13.”

Closed

It was converted into two shops.

KINGS HEAD

Lane Head, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mrs. Hannah Foster [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Lane Head – KINGS HEAD Public House

[1] *Hannah Foster*, (70), widow, innkeeper, born Lane Head;

[2] William Foster (42), son, keysmith, born Lane Head;

[3] Charles Foster (40), son, keysmith, born Lane Head;

[4] George Foster (8), grandson, keysmith, born Walsall:

LAME DOG

93, Coltham Road, (Front Lane), Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Henry Stephen Appleby [1881] – **1885**);

Mrs. Harriet Appleby (**1885** – []

John Tomkinson (**1886** – []

Aaron Williams [1897] – [1901]

Mrs. Appleby [1909]

Cephas Lowbridge [1924]

Jacob Head [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

Front Lane [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

1881 Census

Short Heath – LAME DOG

[1] *Henry S. Appleby* (51), locksmith and beer seller, born Willenhall;

[2] *Harriett Appleby* (52), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Joseph Bateman (58), lodger, locksmith, born Driffield, Gloucestershire;

[4] James Allen (24), lodger, locksmith, born Willenhall;

[5] Lewis Davis (19), apprentice, locksmith, born Willenhall;

[6] John Tarlington (49), lodger, locksmith, born Staffordshire;

- [7] Gussie Berry (4), visitor, born Wolverhampton;
[8] Martha Brooks (19), servant, born Shropshire;
[9] Henry Appleby (78), widower, formerly baker, born Willenhall:

1885 Probate

“The Will of *Henry Stephen Appleby*, late of the LAME DOG INN, Short Heath (near Willenhall), in the county of Stafford, Lock Manufacturer and Beerhouse Keeper, who died 5 August 1885 at the LAME DOG, was proved at Lichfield by *Harriet Appleby* of the LAME DOG, Widow, the Relict, the sole Executrix. Personal Estate £81 8s 9d.”

Walsall Observer 27/2/1897

“At the Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, Elizabeth Spencer, (44), wife of an ironworker, of School Street, Short Heath, was on bail charged with stealing a shawl, value 8s, the property of Elizabeth Williams, wife of the landlord of the LAME DOG INN. The prisoner was seen to go in the public house, and after she left the shawl was missing. Subsequently Police-constable Dodge got on the track, and found the prisoner sitting on a bench in Garrington’s pawnshop, Willenhall, and in a bundle of clothes she then had with her he found the shawl, which the prisoner said was her own property. In reply to the charge at the police station, she said, ‘I have bought the shawl off a woman that was hawking shawls round Short Heath. I gave her 1s 3d for it, but I don’t know who the woman was.’

A fine of 20s and costs or twenty-one days’ hard labour was imposed.”

1901 Census

Front Lane, Short Heath – LAME DOG

- [1] *Aaron Williams* (39), publican, born Pleck;
[2] Elizabeth Williams (38), wife, born Walsall;
[3] Thomas Williams (16), son, keysmith, born Pleck;
[4] Florence Williams (2), daughter, born Short Heath;
[5] James Davis (20), boarder, coal miner loader (down), born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/12/1902

“An application was made for a music and dancing license for the LAME DOG INN, Short Heath. Supt. Walters opposed the application on the ground that the clubroom of the house was not large enough for the purposes of dancing. The application was refused.”

Walsall Observer 13/7/1907

“Recent patent applications.....

Railway carriage door fastenings. *J. Appleby*, LAME DOG HOTEL, Short Heath.

In a two-bolted automatic fastening for railway carriage doors, the lever acted on by the spring is provided to shoot the bolt, and to co-operate therewith in withdrawing the bolt. In the bottom of the case is mounted a spring lever, which is adapted to keep the bolt in the withdrawn position, and to be released on the door closing. In a modification, a coiled spring is used for operating the bolt, and the lever acts on the end of the bolt.”

Midland Evening News 11/10/1909

“At the Willenhall Police Court today, before Dr. J. T. Hartill, Messrs. T. Vaughan and S. Lister, David Harris (21), a miner, of Bloxwich Road, Short Heath, was charged on remand, with stealing a silver watch and leather guard, of the value of £3, belonging to *Joseph Appleby*, of the LAME DOG INN, Coltham Road, Short Heath, and Mary Ann Robinson, a married sister of the prisoner, residing at the Sand Bank, Bloxwich, was charged with receiving the same, knowing them to have been stolen *Joseph Appleby*, the prosecutor, said he was a lock manufacturer, but was residing with his mother at the LAME DOG INN. On the 1st inst, witness wound up the watch (produced) and left it on the kitchen table at the inn when he went to work. The accused was at that time in the taproom with another man.

William Caddick, a miner, of Bloxwich Road, Short Heath, said he saw the accused leave the taproom and go towards the rear of the premises. He was away some few minutes and on returning asked witness to have a cigarette, and then showed him the watch and the guard produced, which he said he had found eventually the Bench dismissed the case.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 19/6/1911

“On Sunday afternoon the eighth annual parade of the National Order of Free Gardeners (Miners Shelter Lodge) took place at Short Heath. A large number of members turned out. The procession formed up at the headquarters, the LAME DOG INN, and, headed by the Short Heath Prize Band and members of the District Council, paraded the principal streets of the village to Holy Trinity Church, where a service was held. The Vicar (the Rev. G. C. W. Pimbury) delivered a very appropriate discourse. At the conclusion of the service the band rendered a selection, under the conductorship of Mr. A. Tew. A collection was taken en route, and in church, for the Wolverhampton General Hospital.”

South Staffordshire Times 26/7/1924

“Interesting and important prosecutions, bearing on the conducting of whist drives on licensed premises, came before the Stipendiary (Mr. Bertram Grimley) at the Bilston Police Court on Tuesday. *Cephas Lowbridge*, licensee of the LAME DOG INN, Short Heath was summoned for permitting, on three occasions, an unlawful game – progressive whist – to take place on his licensed

premises. Kate Bryan, 85, Victoria Street, Willenhall, and Edith M. Williams, Walsall Street, Willenhall, were summoned for aiding and abetting.

Mr. J. Sharpe (West Bromwich) appeared to prosecute, and Mr. E. Brown defended.

Mr. Sharpe explained that the case against the landlord was taken under section 79 of the Licensing Acts of 1910, which provided that the holder of a justice license shall not suffer any unlawful game to be carried out on his premises.

On June 26th, PC Dixon, in consequence of certain information, visited the LAME DOG INN, and found in the club room a number of people taking part in a game of progressive whist. Prizes were exposed on the mantelpiece in the room. There were three gentlemen's and three ladies' prizes. Some of the players had glasses of ale on the table, and at the fireside was a number of bottles of stout. The female defendants were conducting the proceedings. Mrs. Williams remarked to the officer that they were in debt owing to the poor attendance, and she would hold another whist drive there. On going downstairs the officer saw the landlady, Mrs. *Lowbridge*, who said she was surprised that more people did not appreciate the whist drives. She did not charge anything for the room. 'It is plenty of stuff I want to sell. They are not going to hold another drive here.' The constable told her such proceedings were illegal, and she had better discontinue them. The constable went away, Mr. Sharpe continued, and he thought he might venture to say, if there had been no repetition of the games, no notice would have been taken of what had happened on this particular day.

The constable went again to the house on the 30th June, in consequence of seeing a printed notice exposed in the smokers room window, stating that a whist drive would be held every Monday. He saw the same sort of things going on, and saw the female defendants taking part. On the 7th of July other officers went to the licensed premises, and it was ascertained that the players paid an entrance fee of 9d, and the prizes were bought out of the money taken, and the surplus went into the pockets of the two persons who conducted the proceedings. The game was promoted, Mr. Sharpe maintained, in order to sell more liquor. Neighbouring licensees, who heard of these whist drives, naturally objected to them as being unfair, and if one person was to be allowed to continue whist drives on licensed premises he need hardly point out that the whole of the public houses in the district might become gambling houses.

Evidence bearing out in the main opening remarks of Mr. Sharpe was given by PC Dixon and PS Sharpe, who visited the premises on the 7th July. In answer to questions the latter officer stated that the landlord said he had nothing to do with the drives. He let them have the room, but he did not receive anything for it. They supplied the players with refreshments, and trade was rather bad. He was sorry, and had he known that the whist drives should not have been held they would not have taken place. There had been four whist drives, and the average attendance had been about fourteen. There was room for fifty or sixty people.

In answer to Mr. Brown, PS Thorpe said the female defendants each carried on the business of a general dealer, and were well-known in Willenhall as respectable residents. When he told Mrs. Williams that what was taking place was illegal she was willing to give people their money back.

Mr. Brown, addressing the Stipendiary, pointed out that the female defendants had been elsewhere in connection with whist drives, and their intention was to give what profit was made by the drives at the LAME DOG INN to the Willenhall Nursing Society and other charities. For some time it had been a moot point whether progressive whist was a legal game or otherwise. He added that Mrs. Bryan and Mrs. Williams were willing to take the whole responsibility concerning the drives.

The Stipendiary having made a passing reference to the unfairness to other license holders of a whist drive being held, pointed out that in the cases before him, prizes were being played for, which were the result of the contributions of the players. In other words, those taking part in the whist drives were playing for money on a licensed place where it was not permitted.

Superintendent Higgs, in answer to the Stipendiary, said *Lowbridge* had held a license for twelve years, and added that he (the Superintendent) wanted the principle established, and the public generally to know that these games could not be allowed on licensed premises.

The Stipendiary, addressing the female defendants, remarked that they had conducted whist drives in another house, and thought it was right. As a matter of fact they had been breaking the law. He should deal with them under the First Offenders' Act and dismiss the summons against them on payment of 21s costs and the Court fees.

As regarded the licensee he ought to have known better. He would be fined 40s, and ordered to pay £3 3s special costs as concerned the whist drive on July 7th, and to pay the costs of 5s 6d, in each of the other two cases."

1939 Register

93, Coltham Road – LAME DOG INN

[1] *Jacob Head*, date of birth 13/10/1892, colliery manager and beerhouse keeper, married;

[2] *Maria Head*, dob 28/2/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Marion L. (Head) Whitehouse*, dob 22/9/1919, colliery clerk, single;

[4] *Lilian Eva (Head) Osmon*, dob 4/9/1921, paid domestic duties, single;

[5] *Dennis Jacob Head*, dob 16/3/1924, colliery general, above ground, single;

[6] *Winifred Elsie (Head) Griffiths*, dob 29/7/1927, at school, single;

[7] *Robert Lesley Head*, dob 29/6/1936, under school age, single:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, North Division. [1946]

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

Birmingham Daily Post 12/6/1957

"The foundation stone of the Short Heath Old Peoples Welfare Centre will be laid at Willenhall next week, and it is hoped the building, costing £4,000, will be completed within six months.

The treasurer, Coun. C. J. Andrew, has presented as an incentive a silver cup for the public house or club which raises the most

money in a period stipulated by the committee. Presenting the cup at the LAME DOG INN, Short Heath, the first winner, Coun. Andrew last night asked for the help of the people ‘who collect the pennies from the pint drinkers.’”

[1983]

LAMP

Froysell Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Francis Egan [1879] – [1884]

Thomas Walker (1885 – []

Joseph Barrows [1910]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

London Gazette 11/3/1879

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *James Francis Egan*, of the LAMP INN, Froysell-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper and Commercial Clerk.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Rowland Tildesey, Solicitor, Walsall-street, Willenhall, on the 27th day of March, 1879, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 7th day of March, 1879.

Rowland Tildesley, Willenhall, Solicitor for the said *James Francis Egan*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/5/1884

“On Saturday, at the Birmingham Police Court, James Francis Egan, John Daley (alias Denman), and William McDonnell were placed in the dock, charged with treason-felony.....

Mr. Poland: It is headed Newport, 3rd July, 1878, to ‘Dear Jim,’ from ‘James O’Donnell,’ No Christian name and the envelope is addressed ‘*James Egan*, Esq., LAMP INN, Froyssel Street, Willenhall, near Wolverhampton;’ postmark, Newport, Monmouthshire. I shall show that *Egan* knew Daley as O’Donnell in the early part of his career.....”

[*Egan* was found guilty and sentenced to 20 years]

Birmingham Daily Post 23/1/1893

“A Press Association telegram from Weymouth says: James Egan was, by order of the Home Secretary, on Saturday afternoon released from Portland prison, where he had been a convict for several years past.....”

[1909]

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1910

“Wolverhampton annual licensing sessions public houses were too numerous in Willenhall district.

Most of the licences were renewed, but several were deferred until the adjourned sessions.

The Chairman stated that at the adjourned sessions they would consider the question of referring for compensation LAMP TAVERN, Froysell Street, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/3/1910

“Adjourned licensing sessions for the Seisdon division of the county.....

The magistrates considered objections to the renewal of four licenses at Willenhall on the ground of redundancy....

No opposition was offered to these licenses being referred for compensation, along with that of the LAMP TAVERN, Froysell Street.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/7/1910

“On Friday the principal meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shirehall, Stafford

Licenses refused.....
LAMP TAVERN, Willenhall, ante-1869 beerhouse.”

Lichfield Mercury 6/1/1911

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee stated that at the principal meeting the committee refused to renew 27 licenses. At the supplemental meetings the committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard, upon oath, evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee considered that the amounts of compensation agreed upon were satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.....

LAMP TAVERN, Willenhall, beerhouse ante 1869, £550.”

Closed

LION

2, (1), (17), Upper Lichfield Street, (Back Lane), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Avebury Taverns Ltd. (acquired in 1999)

LICENSEES

Joseph Hodson [1818] – 1830)
Ann Hodson [1833] – [1835]
Elizabeth Fowke [1841] – [1842]
Samuel Reeves [1845] – 1850);
Ann Elizabeth Reeves (1850 – 1851);
Thomas Ray (1851 – 1852);
Mrs. Elizabeth Reeves (1852 – [1853]
James Reeves [1860] – 1862);
Samuel Lister (1862 – []
David Butler [1863] – [1870]
Catherine (Butler) Bradbury [1868] – [1871]
William Bradbury [1872]
Meschach Ash [1873] – [1874]
George Taylor [1879] – [1896]
Mrs. Eliza Paget [1901]
Mrs. Mary Ann Collins [1904]
W Collins [1908]
Edward E Furgusson [1911]
Mrs. Sarah Ann Furgusson [1912]
Herbert West Cheshire [1921]
Thomas Ransford Johnson [1932]
Joseph Samuel Nicholls []
Graham Richards [1987]

NOTES

Back Lane [1828], [1830]
Lichfield Street [1860]
17, Upper Lichfield Street [1871]
1, Upper Lichfield Street [1891]
2, Upper Lichfield Street [1896], [1904]

RED LION [1818], [1828], [1834], [1835], [1841], [1842], [1845], [1851], [1852], [1853], [1860], [1864], [1870], [1872], [1873], [1874], [1912]

LION COMMERCIAL & FAMILY HOTEL [1879]

LION HOTEL [1881], [1896], [1901], [1967]

RED LION HOTEL [1904]

LION COMMERCIAL HOTEL [1911]

Coaches ran from here. [1818]

Joseph Hodson = Joseph Hobson

Joseph Hodson was also a padlock maker. [1818]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/1/1830 - Deaths

“On the 17th instant, aged 56, Mr. *Joseph Hodson*, of the RED LION, Willenhall.”

1841 Census

Lichfield Street

[1] *Elizabeth Fowke* (35), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] Sarah Fowke (26), born Staffordshire;

[3] Ann Pickering (20), fs, born Staffordshire:

Samuel Reeves was also a plumber and painter. [1845]

He was described as being also a painter. [1849], [1850]

Samuel Reeves was married to *Ann Elizabeth*.

He died in 1850.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/4/1850

“At the county petty sessions, held at the Magistrates’ Clerk’s Office, Garrick Street, on Monday last, the licenses of the following public houses were transferred.....

RED LION, Willenhall, to *Elizabeth Reeves*, the widow of *Samuel Reeves*, deceased.”

1851 Census

Lichfield Street

[1] *Eliza Reeves* (31), widow, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] Mary Keeling (18), servant, born Willenhall:

Eliza Reeves, widow, married *Thomas Ray*, bachelor, cattle doctor, on 6th November 1851.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/12/1851

“On Monday last special sessions for transferring victuallers’ licenses.....

From the widow of the late *Samuel Reeves*, RED LION, Willenhall, to her now present husband, *Thomas Ray*, late of Brewood.”

James Reeves = James Reeve

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/10/1860 - Notice

“Lost, on the 4th instant, a Black Greyhound Dog, named Hector. Whoever will bring the same to the RED LION INN, Willenhall, will be rewarded. Anyone keeping him after this notice will be prosecuted.”

1861 Census

Upper Lichfield Street

[1] *James Reeves* (36), victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] Elizabeth Reeves (35), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Samuel G. Reeves (18), son, born Willenhall;

[4] Thomas Reeves (16), son, born Willenhall;

[5] James Reeves (12), son, born Willenhall;

[6] Sarah Robbins (20), general servant, born Willenhall:

London Gazette 5/11/1861

“Whereas a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy was, on the 16th day of October, 1861, filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at Wolverhampton, by *James Reeves*, of the RED LION INN, Lichfield-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, under which he has been adjudged bankrupt. Notice is hereby given, that he is hereby required to surrender to the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Court, on the 22nd day of November instant, at nine of the clock in the forenoon precisely, at the said Court, at the Court-house, Queen-street, Wolverhampton aforesaid, and also to the Court, at the public sitting to be appointed by the Court, for the said bankrupt to pass his last examination, of which sitting due no-

tice will be given in the London Gazette. At the first meeting of creditors the Registrar will receive the proofs of the debts of the creditors, and the creditors may choose an assignee or assignees of the bankrupt's estate and effects. At the public sitting proofs of debts of creditors will also be received, and the bankrupt will be required to submit himself to be examined and to make a full disclosure and discovery of all his estate and effects, and to finish his examination. Notice is also hereby given, to all persons indebted to the said bankrupt, or that have any of his effects, not to deliver the same but to Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, Official Assignee, and give notice to Mr. John Smith, of Birmingham, Solicitor to the Petition."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/11/1861

".....The following have filed under the New Bankruptcy Act, and their cases will come on for choice of assignees.....
James Reeves, RED LION, Lichfield Street, Willenhall....."

Samuel Lister = Samuel Lester

Samuel Lister was also a miner.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/1/1862

"*Samuel Lester*, landlord of the RED LION public house, Lichfield Street, Willenhall, was fined £2 and costs for having a number of men and prostitutes in his house, drunk and fighting, at half-past one o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 7th instant."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1862

"County licensing meeting held on Thursday last There were no licenses suspended, but the following publicans were reprimanded for misconduct in the management of their houses during the last twelve months *Samuel Lester*, the RED LION, Willenhall As promises of amendment were made for the future, the licenses were again renewed."

London Gazette 19/8/1864

"*Samuel Lister*, late of Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Victualler, having been adjudged bankrupt by the Registrar of the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Stafford, attending at the County Gaol of Stafford, on the 11th day of July, 1864, and the adjudication being directed to be prosecuted at the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination, and make application for his Discharge, will be held at the said Court, at Wolverhampton, on the 29th day of September next, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. The Registrar of the said Court is the Official Assignee."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/12/1863

"At the Police Court on Monday, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and Mr. Gough, *David Butler*, landlord of the RED LION INN, Willenhall, was fined 10s and costs for having his house open for the sale of beer during the prohibited hours on Sunday morning last."

David Butler was also a butcher. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 9/5/1866

"At the Police Court on Monday, before Mr. Fisher and Mr. R. D. Gough, a man named Thomas Salt, was charged with stealing a watch. It appeared that on the third instant the prisoner helped James Wall, of the RED LION, Willenhall, to bruise some malt. Wall put his watch down on a sack, and shortly afterwards missed it. Two days later Salt pawned the watch for seven shillings at Bilston, and sold the ticket to a Mrs. Bray. The prisoner was committed for trial."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/12/1868

"*Catherine Butler*, landlady of the RED LION INN, Willenhall, was fined 20s and costs for selling spirits during unlawful hours."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/2/1869

"Yesterday, at the Police Court, two men named David Clarke, locksmith, of Darlington Street, Wolverhampton, and Samuel Buller, of Stafford Street, Wolverhampton, were fined 2s 6d each and costs, for having refused to quit the RED LION INN, Market Place, Willenhall. Buller 2s 6d and costs for assaulting Police-constable Izon, and defendants 5s each and costs for having assaulted the waiter at the RED LION."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

"Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates' office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

Catherine Butler, RED LION, Willenhall, selling ale during prohibited hours, fined 20s and costs. Appended to this name was a remark, 'Very bad house, and kept open very late'."

1871 Census

17, Upper Lichfield Street

- [1] *Catherine Butler* (30), widow, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Butler* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Arthur Butler* (6), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Catherine Butler* (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Alice Butler* (4), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Jane Chalender* (19), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Martha Emery* (17), visitor, born Wednesfield:

Catherine Butler married *William Bradbury* in the 4th quarter of 1871.

London Gazette 25/6/1872

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by of *William Bradbury*, of Wednesfield, in the county of Stafford, Commission Agent, in lodgings, formerly of the RED LION INN, Willenhall, in the said county, Licensed Victualler.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the office of Mr. Charles Barrow, of No.48, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, on the 13th day of July, 1872, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

Dated this 22nd day of June, 1872.

Charles Barrow, 48, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, Attorney for the said *William Bradbury*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/9/1872

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, Mr. Dallow again applied for the rescinding of the order granted by the Magistrates a fortnight ago, for the protection of the property of Mrs. *William Bradbury*, against her husband or his creditors, on the ground of his desertion. Mr. R. A. Willcock, on behalf of Mr. S. J. Walker, opposed the application. The facts, briefly recapitulated, are these. About six months ago the applicant, *William Bradbury*, married the possessor of the order, who was then a widow, with four children, residing at the RED LION, Willenhall. Their married life appears to have been unhappy, and cruelty and neglect are alleged against the husband. On several occasions Mrs. *Bradbury* removed the furniture from the house, and eventually they separated. They again became reconciled, however, and went to live at the ROSE AND CROWN, Wednesfield, belonging to Mrs. *Bradbury*'s mother. On the 31st July Mr. *Bradbury* left his wife and went to reside at Wolverhampton. Having represented to the Magistrates that he had deserted her without cause, and had refused to maintain her, Mrs. *Bradbury* obtained the order in question. The contention in behalf of the applicant, however, was that he had been ejected from the ROSE AND CROWN by order of his wife's mother; that he had never refused to live with his wife, and that he was still prepared to find her a home. The Magistrates, yesterday, stated that they saw no reason to revoke the protection order.”

London Gazette 24/10/1876

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Meshach Ash*, late of the RED LION INN, Upper Lichfield-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, but now of Court 2, Rose-hill, Willenhall aforesaid, Journeyman Key Stamper.

Notice is hereby given, that a Second General Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named person has summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. John Clark, Solicitor, No.4, New Road, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, on the 2nd day of November, 1876, at three o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 23rd day of October, 1876.

John Clark, No.4. New Road, Willenhall, Solicitor for the said *Meshach Ash*.”

Advert (1879)

“Burton and home brewed ales. Every accommodation for commercial gentlemen. An excellent ordinary is provided every day at 1:15.”

1881 Census

2, Upper Lichfield Street – LION HOTEL

- [1] *George Taylor* (38), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Fanny M. Taylor* (39), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Leonard D. Taylor* (11), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Rose H. Turner* (19), domestic servant, born Ludlow:

1891 Census

1, Upper Lichfield Street

- [1] *George Taylor* (47), licensed victualler and traveller, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Fanny Matilda Taylor* (48), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Fanny May Taylor* (24), daughter, professor of music and languages, born Willenhall;

- [4] Leonard De Bosco Taylor (21), son, accountant, born Willenhall;
- [5] Louisa Walker (22), barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [6] Annie Austwick (20), general servant, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

Upper Lichfield Street – LION HOTEL

- [1] *Eliza Paget* (55), married, manageress of hotel, born Willenhall;
- [2] Alice Paget (23), daughter, waitress at hotel, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Lydia Paget (18), daughter, waitress at hotel, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Mary Ann Key (32), barmaid, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Sarah Pomfray (19), cook, born Wolverhampton:

1911 Census

LION HOTEL

- [1] *Edward E. Furgusson* (38), hotel proprietor, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Sarah Anne Furgusson* (33), wife, married 1 year, hotel proprietress, born Stourbridge;
- [3] Edwina Furgusson (1 month), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Dorris Furgusson (14), daughter, help about hotel, born Willenhall;
- [5] Eliza Phillips (23), assistant, barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [6] Sarah Palmer (31), assistant, barmaid, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Annie Hatherley (19), housemaid, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] Maria Davis (17), housemaid, born Willenhall:

South Staffordshire Times 22/5/1920

“R.A.O.B. Primo James T. Eccleston and Primo Bruce Albert Read were installed to the third degree (K.O.M.) at a meeting of the Prince of Wales Lodge, No.458, at the LION HOTEL, Willenhall on Wednesday.....”

South Staffordshire Times 2/4/1921

“A smoking concert was held at the LION HOTEL, Willenhall, on Thursday evening. It had been arranged by members of the Willenhall and District Committee of the National Union of Workers to afford an opportunity of showing appreciation of the services of Mr. J. H. Davies, who had been district organising secretary for several years, and also of making a presentation to him.....”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 2/5/1925

“Court Lion of The Forest (No.4074), of the Wolverhampton and Tipton District of the Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society, held a smoking concert, on Monday last, at the LION HOTEL, Upper Lichfield Street, Willenhall.....”

Birmingham Mail 19/4/1941 - Advert

“Bar-General Required. Good home. Good wages. Safe area.
LION HOTEL, Willenhall, Staffs.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 16/11/1946

“The English draughts champion, F. W. Glasson, visited the LION HOTEL, Willenhall, and gave a display on 12 boards. He lost one game to John Needham, ex-Wolves player, and was held to a draw by C. F. Bennett (Willenhall) and J. Brown (Walsall). In making a presentation to the champion, Councillor J. A. Parkes expressed the hope that a local draughts league would be formed.”

London Gazette 30/1/1989

“*Joseph Samuel Nicholls*, unemployed, residing at 7 Church Road, Short Heath, Willenhall, lately residing and carrying on business as the Tenant Publican at the VINE INN, Station Street, Darlaston, formerly at the LION HOTEL, Upper Lichfield Street, Willenhall, and before that at the SWAN INN, 84 Sedgley Road, Woodsetton, Wolverhampton, all in the county of West Midlands. Court Walsall. Date Fixed for Hearing 16th February 1989, 10.15 am, Court House, Lichfield Street, Walsall WS1 1TL.”

Graham Richards was married to Sue.

It was refurbished in 2000.

[2007]

Closed

It was converted into two shops. [2012]

LODGE TAVERN

71, High Road, (71, (90), Lane Head), (Willenhall Road), Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Frederick Washbrook [1864] – [1891]
Mrs. Sarah Washbrook [1901] – [1904]
Albert Edmund Brown [1939] – [1940]
H O Parkes [] – 1952)

NOTES

90, Lane Head [1881]
Willenhall Road [1891]
71, High Road [1939]
71, Lane Head [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Frederick Washbrook, beer retailer, Lane Head. [1864], [1865]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/6/1864

“Police Court. At this court, on Monday, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, the following cases were brought before the Bench.

Frederick Washbrook, beerhouse keeper, Lane Head, was summoned under somewhat peculiar circumstances, for being drunk and incapable. It appears he was found by Police-constable Titterton drunk and asleep lying across a rail in a public highway, on the night of the 1st inst., and finding that defendant could scarcely either walk or stand, Titterton conveyed him to the police station, and locked him up for the night for safety. Mr. Cresswell, who appeared for the defence, called witnesses to disprove a part of the officer’s statement, but the Bench considered the charge proved, and ordered the defendant to pay a penalty of 5s and costs, or go to prison for three weeks.”

Frederick Washbrook, mortice and trunk lock maker and beer retailer, Lane Head. [1868]

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/9/1870

“This was the adjourned day for considering applications for new and the renewal of old licenses. But one case stood adjourned, that of *Frederick Washbrook*, beerhouse-keeper, Lane Head, Willenhall, and it was again adjourned for a week for further inquiry. Applicant had been fined three times by the Willenhall magistrates; the last occasion for keeping a room for cock fighting.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/10/1870

“The application of *Frederick Washbrook*, of Lane Head, Willenhall, for the renewal of his license, was at last granted; but he was warned that if there should ever be another conviction against him he would most assuredly lose his license.”

1871 Census

Lane Head

- [1] *Frederick Washbrook* (49), cabinet locksmith and beer shop keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Sarah Washbrook* (36), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Isaac Washbrook (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Sarah Washbrook (8), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Abraham Washbrook (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] Alice Elizabeth Washbrook (2), daughter, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1877

“Special annual meeting for the granting of new and the renewal of old licenses.....

The application of *Frederick Washbrook*, LODGE TAVERN, Lane Head, for a spirit license was refused.”

1881 Census

90, Lane Head – LODGE TAVERN

- [1] *Frederick Washbrook* (56), lock maker and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Sarah Washbrook* (40), wife, born Lane Head;
- [3] Isaac Washbrook (20), son, lock maker, born Lane Head;
- [4] Sarah Washbrook (18), daughter, born Lane Head;
- [5] Abraham Washbrook (14), son, lock maker, born Lane Head;
- [6] Alice Elizabeth Washbrook (12), daughter, born Lane Head;
- [7] Arthur Washbrook (9), son, born Lane Head;
- [8] Howard Washbrook (6), son, born Lane Head:

Evening Express 19/9/1881

“Thomas Fenn, nuisance inspector and surveyor to the Local Board at Short Heath, was charged with assaulting *Frederick Washbrook*, landlord of the LODGE TAVERN, Lane Head, Short Heath, and also with doing malicious damage to the extent of 2s 6d. There was a cross summons against *Washbrook* and a man named Richard Whitehouse for an assault upon Fenn at the same time and place. It appeared that on Tuesday last Fenn went to inspect a drain which had been opened by *Washbrook* for the purpose of seeing whether it met the requirements for which it was being constructed. An altercation ensued, during which *Washbrook* ordered Fenn off his premises, and on Fenn refusing to leave *Washbrook* lifted up a hoe, with which he threatened to cut Fenn’s legs off.

The Bench dismissed all the cases on payment of costs, and considered that Fenn had exceeded his duty in persisting in remaining in *Washbrook*’s premises when ordered to leave.”

Evening Express 5/12/1881

“Isaac Bateman (19), caster, Wolverhampton Street; George Lloyd (21), Stringes, groom; Enoch Boulton (21), Spring Bank, locksmith; William Eldershaw (17), Monmer Lane, keysmith; Henry Saunders (19), Cannon Street, whitesmith; Thomas Hatton (19), locksmith, Russell Street; Aaron Adey (21), Riley Street, locksmith; Frederick Hancocks (17), Newhall Street, locksmith; and John Huston, were charged with having, on the 28th of November, violently assaulted Isaac *Washbrook*, a young man living at Lane Head, and stolen from him a carpet bag containing a quart tin bottle, an apron, and seven music books. Huston had surrendered this morning; the other eight defendants were remanded from Bilston on Tuesday last. Mr. Joseph Sheldon appeared in support of the charge, and Mr. John Clark was instructed to defend the whole of the accused persons.

In opening the case Mr. Sheldon said the case appeared to have arisen out of a dispute. The whole of the defendants were members of the Merry Boys’ Football Club, whose meetings formerly were held at the LODGE TAVERN, Lane Head, which was kept by the prosecutor’s father. A disturbance arose between the club and the landlord, and the idea of the defendants seemed to be that the landlord’s son was the cause of the ill-feeling.

The prosecutor, whose jaw and head were plastered, and who appeared to be otherwise suffering, was sworn, and stated that on the night of the 28th ult he was returning home, about eleven o’clock, having fulfilled his night’s engagement at public house as a pianist. When near Solly’s Furnaces he met the defendants, all of whom he knew. Saunders spoke to him first, and while this was going on Adey struck witness, and bumped his face against Saunders’s. He asked for the reason of such an assault, and Adey said, ‘I’ll charge you, you ——,’ immediately running against him, kicking him and dealing him a blow upon the nose. Witness told Adey he would make him pay for it, and Adey replied, ‘If you summons me, I’ll stab you.’ Hatton cried ‘Now’s the time, Merry Boys (the name of the football club which they were members), which was a signal for the whole of the defendants to gather round witness. Huston caught him by the throat, and witness struck him with a carpet bag which he was carrying. Three or four of the others returned his blow, and he fell down and was dragged about 50 yards along the road to Willenhall by Huston, Lloyd, Boulton, Hatton, Saunders, and Adey, and then his bag and seven books of music, which he had carried under his arm, were taken from him. He got up and started for Willenhall, the whole lot following, Hancocks catching him by Davis’s house, near to the furnaces, and striking him on the left temple. Witness got round by the back of the house, and while there he heard Hatton say, ‘Now, Merry Boys, fetch that —— out, and we’ll kill him,’ this being succeeded by the others coming to hand, dragging him, breaking some railings against which he stood, and again kicking him, Hancocks and Huston beating him while this went on. He shouted, and heard someone come to a window. He was carried by the gang to a bridge over the brook near to this spot, and being reared against the wall, Boulton, Adey, and Lloyd each threatened to murder him if he stirred or spoke. Hatton said, ‘We’ll wait on the bridge for him, and put him in the cut.’ Bateman asked that they should ‘let him be now,’ adding ‘We’ve given him enough; we shall kill him.’ They then went away. Witness subsequently met Police-constable Gibbons, to whom he complained and gave the names of the whole of his assailants. The officer went back with him. On the way they met Huston, who gave a wrong name and address, and at the bridge they saw the other eight, and heard one say that he had got the bag, and Saunders that he knew where the music was, and would fetch it. Saunders fetched the music from near the stables, and they all then ran away. Witness afterwards saw a doctor, and his injuries were attended to. One finger had a piece kicked off as though by a heavily nailed boot, another finger was busted, he had a kick wound upon the back of the head, another behind the right ear, both eyes were ‘knocked up,’ a piece of flesh was kicked off his jaw, his head was swollen, and he was bruised about the neck and shoulders and body, and he could not move his neck. He had not been able to work since the occurrence. He believed the affair lasted about an hour. Mr. Sheldon, having intimated that he should want a remand, the Clerk (Mr. J. Slater) said that in fairness to all sides the remand ought to take place now before the prosecutor was cross-examined. Mr. Sheldon said he had certain witnesses who dare not come unless they were summoned.

The Rev G. H. Fisher: If this statement is true there exists a system of terrorism which is not to be submitted to. The resources of civilization are not quite exhausted yet, I hope.

Mr. Clark: If the prosecutor’s statement were all true, I don’t think he would be here to tell it.

Mr. Slater: The police say the injuries were very severe.

Mr. Fisher: If they had their way, he might have been in the canal. There is an old saying that 'it takes nine tailors to make a man,' but here are nine persons who don't altogether make one man of courage.

The defendants were then remanded for a week, sureties in £20 being required for each of them.

Mr. Clark: £20 is a large amount.

Mr. Fisher: It is a serious case.

Mr. Slater: It was in the night time, and the man was waylaid.

Mr. Fisher: And the affair lasted an hour."

Evening Express 12/12/1881

"Isaac Bateman (19), caster, Wolverhampton Street; George Lloyd (21), Stringes, groom; Enoch Boulton (21), Spring Bank, locksmith; William Eldershaw (17), Monmer Lane, keysmith; Henry Saunders (19), Cannon Street, whitesmith; Thomas Hatton (19), locksmith, Russell Street; Aaron Adey (21), Riley Street, locksmith; Frederick Hancocks (17), Newhall Street, locksmith; and John Huston, were charged, by adjournment, with having, on the 28th November, violently assaulted Isaac *Washbrook*, a young man living at Lane Head, and stolen from him a carpet bag containing a quart tin bottle, an apron, and seven music books. Mr. Joseph Sheldon appeared in support of the charges, and Mr. John Clark was instructed to defend the whole of the accused persons. It will be remembered that the case was before the Bench last week, when the prosecutor swore that a violent assault was committed upon him as he was on his way home by the whole of the defendants, who are members of The Merry Boys Football Club, whose headquarters formerly were in a field let to them by *Washbrook's* father.

The prosecutor, on being re-called, slightly altered a part of the evidence that he gave last week, withdrawing the statement that he had not worked between the time of the assault and the first hearing of the charges before the magistrates, and saying what he meant was that he had not worked during the whole of that period.

James Davis, miner, Short Heath, said that on the night of the 28th ult, about half past eleven, he and Alfred Smith and the prosecutor left the ARTILLERY public house, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall, together to go home. Near the canal bridge, by Solly's furnaces, he saw the whole of the defendants. Saunders was up on the bridge, and leaving the prosecutor talking to Saunders, witness and Smith went off. Soon afterwards they heard prosecutor crying for assistance. Smith and witness returned, and saw all of the defendants round *Washbrook*, but they were then quiet. Witness said, 'Come out of it Ike.' *Washbrook* came out, and Huston hit witness on the temple. He took off his coat, but hearing some of the defendants say that he and Smith were not wanted by them, but, they wanted *Washbrook*, he and Smith walked away.

Alfred Henry Smith, pattern maker, Short Heath, the companion of the last witness, corroborated his evidence, and stated further that he saw Huston, after striking Davis, rush at *Washbrook*, whereupon the latter struck him with something which he had in his hand.

Police-constable Gibbons and Police-sergeant Williams, of Little London, gave evidence as to the injuries from which prosecutor was suffering on the night of the 28th, and also of the arrest of the accused persons.

Mr. Clark, addressing the Bench, submitted that the assault was not of such a violent nature as the opening statement last week, as the prosecutor's evidence then tended to show. The prosecutor had now stated that the assault did not keep him from work more than a day or two, and it was also worthy of note that although he was attended to by a surgeon, the latter was not now called. As to the alleged robbery, the charge would not hold water before any jury, the prosecutor's property having been thrown away in the course of the assault which undoubtedly took place. The defendants had been at a football match at Bloxwich, and afterwards supped together. They met the prosecutor, and a quarrel ensued, ending in an assault upon the prosecutor, a common assault, to which he advised his clients to plead guilty. He asked the Bench to have regard to the fact that the defendants were of a previously good character, and that from their position they were unable to give their own account of what took place.

Mr. Fisher said he did not feel at all sure that it would be right to do away with the charge of robbery, and asked what was the maximum punishment for the assault.

The Clerk (Mr. Slater): You can give them two months' hard labour.

Mr. Fisher: No more? I should have thought such an assault could have been heavily punished.

Mr. Sheldon said his client wished the defendants to be dealt with as leniently as possible, and trusted the Bench would allow his assailants to pay fines.

Mr. Fisher said the event was most discreditable to the parish, and a worst case could not have been imagined. It could not be passed over without what might in some cases be regarded as severe. Each one but Bateman was fined £2 and costs, or two months' hard labour; and Bateman, who pleaded with the others for the prosecutor when they threatened to throw him into the canal, was fined £1 and costs, or one months' hard labour."

1891 Census

Willenhall Road – LODGE TAVERN INN

- [1] *Frederick Washbrook* (66), publican, born Short Heath;
- [2] *Sarah Washbrook* (50), wife, born Short Heath;
- [3] *Abraham Washbrook* (24), son, locksmith, born Short Heath;
- [4] *Arthur Washbrook* (19), son, locksmith, born Short Heath;
- [5] *Howard Washbrook* (16), son, key stamper, born Short Heath:

1901 Census

Lane Head

- [1] *Sarah Washbrook* (65), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Short Heath;
- [2] *Abraham Washbrook* (34), son, lock maker, born Short Heath;

- [3] Arthur Washbrook (29), son, lock maker, born Short Heath;
- [4] John Walker (42), son in law, lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [5] Sarah Walker (38), daughter, born Short Heath;
- [6] Agnes Walker (16), granddaughter, born Short Heath;
- [7] Albert Walker (13), grandson, born Short Heath;
- [8] John A. Walker (8), grandson, born Short Heath;
- [9] Frederick Walker (4), grandson, born Short Heath;
- [10] Alfred Walker (8 months), grandson, born Short Heath:

Mrs. *Sarah Washbrook*, beer retailer, Lane Head. [1904]

1939 Register

71, High Road

- [1] *Albert E. Brown*, date of birth 27/1/1902, aircraft fitter, married;
- [2] *Annie L. Brown*, dob 1/7/1901, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Eric R. Brown*, dob 3/10/1923, apprentice electrical engineer, single;
- [4] *Joan (Brown) Hartshorne*, dob 24/6/1926, at school, single;
- [5] *Doreen A. (Brown) Perks*, dob 3/1/1928, at school, single:

H. O. Parkes died in 1952.

Closed

It later became a fish and chip shop.

LONG ACRES

158, Dilloways Lane, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

Pubmaster Ltd. [1998]

Punch Taverns [2005]

LICENSEES

K Reynolds [1989]

Brenda Stringer [1995] – [1998]

William Thomas Finch [2005]

John Allen (2009 – []

NOTES

An application was made for proposed additions in 1967.

Alterations were applied for in 1989.

An application for an extension was made in 1996.

An application to extend the function room was made in 1998.

Express & Star 21/12/2007

“A string of traditional Black Country pubs will remain shut over Christmas because of a lack of landlords.....

One in Willenhall stopped serving when the landlord suddenly walked out.....

A surprise birthday party booked three months ago at the LONG ACRES in Dilloways Lane, Willenhall, ended in tears because nobody warned organisers that the bar had ceased trading. Steve Kelly, a 33-year-old engineer from Cannock, invited 120 friends and paid £900 arranging a buffet, live band and disco and securing the function room to celebrate the 40th birthday of wife Jayne tonight. Mr. Kelly explained, ‘It was only by chance that a friend spotted it had shut down when he drove past. By that time it was far too late to arrange an alternative venue. The landlord had my phone number but made no effort to tell me the pub had

closed. It is disgraceful.’ Mrs. Kelly added, ‘He spent four months arranging the surprise party and now he has had to break the secret to tell me that it is all off. I am devastated.’ The LONG ACRES closed around two weeks ago. Jo Revill, from Punch Taverns, which leases the pub, said, ‘We will be looking to recruit a new licensee for the LONG ACRES. The reasons the current licensee is leaving are confidential. The pub is not trading at the moment because of an internal family dispute.’”

It closed in December 2007.

It reopened.

John Allen was born c.1976.

He was a backing singer. He appeared with Lemar, Embrace, Miss Dynamite and Tom Jones.

It closed in 2011.

It was converted into a temple. [2015]

MALTHOUSE

The Dale, New Road, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

J. D. Wetherspoon

LICENSEES

NOTES

It opened on 21st December 1999.

www.jdwetherspoon.com

“This pub stands on the site of a malthouse – one of the outbuildings of nearby Dale House. Being on New Road (itself constructed around 1818 as a turnpike), Dale House was built for the Hincks family more than half a century earlier, whose malthouse was situated next door. The malthouse was later converted to The Coliseum – the first cinema on the site, which opened in 1914, on the eve of World War I.”

Rebuilt in 1932 as the Dale Cinema, which closed in 1967.

It became a bingo hall in 1968.

[Express & Star 27/9/2022](#)

“Two well-known Wetherspoon pubs in the Black Country are being sold off by the chain as part of 32 nationally which are facing the axe. The BILLIARD HALL in St. Michael’s Street, on West Bromwich’s Ringway, is being sold off alongside the MALTHOUSE in New Road, Willenhall. Between 40 to 50 staff work at each site and will be retained by the firm at other pubs in the region. The pubs will keep running until they are sold. But the news of the two well-known pubs closing – the only Wetherspoon pubs in their area – has been described as a ‘big blow’ for the town centres.....”

[Express & Star 28/3/2023](#)

“Regulars have waved a fond farewell to Willenhall’s Wetherspoon pub after it closed its doors for the last time. The MALTHOUSE, in The Dale, was among more than 30 branches earmarked for closure by the chain following an economic move by the operator. It closed its doors on Sunday.

The MALTHOUSE off New Road in the town centre and the BILLIARD HALL, in St Michael’s Street, in West Bromwich were among 32 earmarked for closure by the pub chain last year. Wetherspoon spokesman Eddie Gershon said, ‘We can confirm that the MALTHOUSE pub in Willenhall will be closed from Monday. It will be open as normal up to and including this Sunday. We would like to thank our loyal customers and staff for their custom and service over the years. We appreciate that people will be disappointed that the pub is closing. This is a commercial decision by Wetherspoon.’”

[Express & Star 21/5/2023](#)

“.....the MALTHOUSE off New Road in Willenhall closed in March and the site also known as in The Dale is currently up for sale.....”

[2023]

MALT SHOVEL

46, (44), High Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Brevitt [1841]
James Brevitt [1845] – [1851]
George Churchett [] – **1858**;
George Bradley (**1858 – 1866**);
Hough [1865] ?
James Jones (**1866 – []**)
William Lister [1862] – [1865]
James Brevitt [1864] – [1874]
Joseph Firm [1868] – **1870**;
George Bradley (**1870 – [1874]**)
Thomas Haynes [1881]
Benjamin Wynn [1891] – [1908]
Samuel Stanford [1911] – [1912]
Dennis Taylor [1916]
William Williams [1921]
Edward Lewis Davies [1932]

NOTES

44, High Street [1896], [1904], [1908]
46, High Street [1891], [1901], [1912], [1932]

MALT SHOVEL TAVERN [1850], [1866], [1871]
OLD MALT SHOVEL [1861], [1864], [1866], [1881]

It was frequented by Lizzie Paynton ('Cock Canary').

1841 Census

Portobello

- [1] *Thomas Brevitt* (35), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Brevitt* (35), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Ann Brevitt* (14), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Thomas Brevitt* (10), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *John Brevitt* (2), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Betsey Taberner* (20), fs, born Staffordshire:

James Brevitt was also a rim lock manufacturer. [1845], [1849], [1850], [1851], [1874]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/7/1845

“A coroner’s inquest was held at the MALT SHOVEL, Portobello, yesterday (Tuesday), before Thomas Moss Phillips, Esq., on the body of Edward Walker, a miner, about twenty-four years old, who was killed ascending from a pit at the Bier Bed colliery, Bilston. It appeared that the deceased, instead of going up in an empty skip which was at the bottom of the pit, put one of his feet into the link of the weight attached to the chain, and fell when about a hundred yards up the pit shaft.
Verdict Accidental Death.”

James Brevitt, beer retailer and maltster, High Street, Portobello. [1864], [1865]

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *James Brevitt* (50), widower, victualler and master locksmith, employing 6 men, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Catharine Waddell* (14), stepdaughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Ann Brevitt* (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Sarah Brevitt* (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Fanny Brevitt* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *John Brevitt* (6 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Jane Marston* (58), visitor, nurse, born Willenhall;
- [8] *William Kirken* (36), house servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [9] *Fanny Clutterbuck* (13), house servant, born Birmingham:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/8/1853 - Deaths

“On the 29th ult., aged 2 years and 10 months, *John Bird*, son of Mr. *James Brevitt*, of the MALT SHOVEL, Portobello, near Wolverhampton, and grandson of the late Mr. *John Bird*, of the same place.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/3/1861

“On Thursday last, an inquest was held at the OLD MALT SHOVEL, Portobello, before Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy-coroner, on the body of *William Nicholls*, a master sinker, aged 40. The evidence showed that the deceased was working with two men bricking a shaft in Mr. *Jeavon’s* colliery, on Tuesday, when a bowk of bricks was being drawn up the shaft, the windlass fell to the bottom and killed deceased. It seemed that *Samuel Bold*, one of the deceased’s workmen, on affixing the windlass on a platform in the shaft on the previous day, expressed his doubt that the windlass so placed was unequal to the work it would be required to perform, and he was about to fetch another plank to remove the danger. The deceased, however, refused to allow him saying ‘the windlass had done before, and would do again.’ The Jury thought the deceased’s death was occasioned by his own negligence and returned a verdict to that effect.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/5/1865 - Advert

“MALT SHOVEL, Portobello.

The Bankruptcy Act, 1861.

Under a Deed of Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors.

Tomorrow (Tuesday), May 2, Mr. T. Skidmore will Sell by Auction, on the Premises of Mr. *Hough*, MALT SHOVEL INN, Portobello – the whole of the Brewing Utensils, Stock-in Trade, 48 bushels of Malt, 200 gallons of Prime Ale, prime Ale Barrels, Cooler, Gathering Tub, 80-gallon Iron Boiler, with Grate and underwork; 16-bushel Mash Tub, wood Vat, Screens, Benches, 4-pull Ale Machine and Piping; also, the superior Household Furniture, handsome set of four-post Bedsteads, Mattresses, prime Feather Beds, Bedding; mahogany Chest of Drawers, mahogany Washstand and Dressing Table, Dressing Glass, Toilet Ware, Windsor Chairs, Kitchen Requisites, and other Effects.

Sale punctually at Eleven o’clock in the morning.

Catalogues may be had at the Office of *George Cresswell*, Esq., Bilston Street and at the Office of the Auctioneer, 2, Bilston Street, both of Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/1/1866

“At the County Police Court, on Monday last, before H. Hill, S. Cartwright, and B. Hicklin, Esqs., the following licenses were transferred.....

And that of the MALT SHOVEL, Willenhall, from *George Bradley* to *James Jones*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/2/1866

“On Monday, at the Police Court, *James Jones*, landlord of the OLD MALT SHOVEL INN, Portobello, was summoned for permitting drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house. On the night of the 12th instant, Police-constable Dutton and another officer found the place filled with Irishmen, quarrelling as to who would pay for a jug of ale. One man was lying upon the table, and his nose was bleeding. There was no evidence, however, that the man had got the injury by fighting in the house, and the landlord was fined 6d and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, in this county, was held on Friday, at the County Magistrates’ Room, Bilston Street. The Magistrates on the Bench were H. Hill, J. Perks, S. Cartwright, and B. Hicklin, Esqs.

The Magistrates suspended the licenses of *James Jones*, the MALT SHOVEL Inn, Portobello, and *George Tarbuck*, the GATE INN, New Invention, who had both been fined during the year, until the adjourned licensing day, on 10th of September next. All the other licenses were renewed.”

1871 Census

High Street – MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *George Bradley* (32), coal miner, born Bilston;
- [2] *Fanny Bradley* (27), wife, born Portobello;
- [3] *John Bradley* (7), son, scholar, born Portobello;
- [4] *Alfred Bradley* (1), son, born Portobello;

[5] Ann Davies (17), domestic servant, born Portobello;
[6] Jesse Bradley (1 month), son, born Portobello:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

“Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Alehouses: *George Bradley*, MALT SHOVEL, Portobello.....”

George Bradley was also a chartermaster. [1873]

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1873

“Mr. *George Bradley*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Portobello, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house. A police-constable had gone to the house twice on the same evening, and on each occasion a man, who refused to leave the premises, was there drunk. For the defendant it was contended that the man had not been served with drink on the premises, and that he had been ordered to leave. This was corroborated by witnesses; but the Bench considered the case proved, and imposed a fine of 20s and costs.”

1881 Census

46, High Street, Portobello – OLD MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *Thomas Haynes* (33), licensed victualler and key maker, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Ann Haynes* (33), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Alice Gertrude Haynes* (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Frederick John George Haynes* (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Florence Haynes* (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Hannah Leah Haynes* (2), daughter, born Willenhall:

Evening Express 2/6/1881

“On Wednesday afternoon, W. H. Phillips, Esq, (coroner) held an inquest at the OLD MALT SHOVEL INN, Portobello, near Willenhall, on the body of *Charles Parsonage*, miner, who died from injuries he received at a colliery in the neighbourhood. After evidence of identification had been taken, the inquiry was adjourned until Monday next, in order that the Mines Inspector may inspect the place where the deceased was injured.”

1891 Census

46, High Street – MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *Benjamin Wynn* (48), coal miner and beerhouse keeper, born Wallbrook;
 - [2] *Elizabeth Wynn* (47), wife, barmaid, born Willenhall:
- [Walbrook is part of Coseley.]

1901 Census

46, High Street, Portobello

- [1] *Benjamin Wynn* (58), publican, born Wallbrook;
- [2] *Elizabeth Wynn* (57), wife, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

46, High Street, Portobello

- [1] *Samuel Stanford* (30), publican, manager, born Bloomfield, Tipton;
- [2] *Phoebe Stanford* (30), wife, married 5 years, born Coseley;
- [3] *Clara Gladys Stanford* (4), daughter, born Bloomfield, Tipton;
- [4] *Mary Ann Rhodes* (73), mother, born Netherton:

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/8/1933

“County Licensing Authority.....

Renewal of the following licenses was also refused on the ground of redundancy, and all were referred for compensation, the police evidence being to the effect that the needs of the various localities were better met by other licensed houses.....
MALT SHOVEL INN, Willenhall, alehouse.”

It closed on 26th November 1933.

Bilston and Willenhall Times 6/1/1934

“A sum of £2,300 it was reported at Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, on Tuesday, has been awarded as compensation in respect of the closure of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/1/1934

“County Licensing Report.....

At the supplementary meeting held on October 7, the County Licensing Committee fixed compensation as follows.....
MALT SHOVEL, Willenhall, alehouse, £2,300.”

MILESTONE

130, Essington Road, New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Marstons PLC

LICENSEES

David Hall [2003]
Ryan Perrins (2022 – [2023])

NOTES

[1982]

David Hall was born c.1979.
His partner was Vivienne Brunger.
He slept on the roof of the pub, in March 2003, to raise £500 for the Rosedene Animal Rescue Centre in Rushall.

Express & Star 22/3/2021

“Pubs group Marston’s has issued a list of pubs set to reopen in the Black Country on April 12th. In the Express & Star circulation area this takes in 93. Due to coronavirus restrictions they will only be able to accommodate customers in outdoor areas including beer gardens and seated areas. To accompany table service, Marston’s has introduced an online ordering system called ‘Marston’s Tap’. The online platform is available across the majority of Marston’s pubs for guests to use. Bookings are being accepted and guests can reserve a table via each pub’s website. Wolverhampton-based Marston’s has an estate of around 1,400 pubs across the UK and not all in England are able to reopen in April due to not having an outdoor space.....
MILESTONE, New Invention.”

Express & Star 5/12/2023

“A Walsall pub manager has marked a year of turning around the pub’s fortunes with a festive display. The MILESTONE in New Invention has become a brightly lit and festive location after manager *Ryan Perrins* set up more than 5,000 lights all over the pub. *Ryan* said the idea had been to celebrate his first year of running the pub and bring a touch of colour and fun to the pub. ‘I’ve just celebrated my one year anniversary at the pub and decided it would be a really good way to celebrate that year,’ he said. He also wanted to give some Christmas cheer to people who might find this time to be a sad time, so we put the time in and funded it ourselves.....”

[2023]

MILL STREET TAVERN

Mill Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry Baxter [1851] – [1852]
Joseph Shepherd [1857]
Samuel Taylor [1858] – [1859]
Richard Wright [1860] – [1866]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/10/1851

“*Henry Baxter* was fined 2s 6d and costs, for selling ale after eleven o’clock in the evening of the 11th instant at Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Mr. Hayes applied on behalf of Mr. *Henry Baxter*, MILL STREET TAVERN, Willenhall, observing that within the last twelve months seventeen new houses had been erected in that street Refused.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/1/1857

“David Gough of Willenhall will run Wedge of Bilston from 20 yards up to one mile, for £5 or £10 a side, or he will take three yards in 160 on Haywood of the same place, for £10 or £20 a side; or run Hanby Causer 200 yards if he will give him five yards start, from £5 or £10 a side. A match can be made at Mr. *Joseph Sheppard’s*, the MILL STREET TAVERN, Willenhall, to run in six weeks from signing articles.”

AND

“D. Gough of Willenhall will run Wedge from 200 or 300 yards, from £5 or £10 a side, in six or seven weeks from the first deposit; or he will run T. Haywood of the same place if he will give him nine yards start in 300; or he will run Young Jinks, or Bailey of Darlaston any distance they wish level. A match can be made at Mr. *J. Sheppard’s*, the MILL STREET TAVERN, Mill Street, Willenhall, any night next week.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting for the renewal of Victuallers’ licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for licenses, for the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. Parkes applied for a license for the THREE TUNS, Walsall Road, Willenhall, kept by Meshach Rowley. Mr. Hayes made a similar application on behalf of *Samuel Taylor*, the landlord of the MILL STREET TAVERN, Mill Street, Willenhall. Mr. H. Underhill opposed for Mr. Perks, of the QUEENS ARMS, and Mr. Hartill, of the ACORN. Both applications were refused.”

London Gazette 8/11/1859

“Whereas a Petition of *Samuel Taylor*, at present and for five days last past residing in lodgings at the house of Charles Proffitt, Newhall-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Journeyman Carter, previously and for about eighteen months residing at the MILL STREET TAVERN, Mill-street, Willenhall aforesaid, Retail Brewer, Dealer in Tobacco, and Coal Dealer, previously and for about two years and six months residing in King-street, Willenhall aforesaid, Grocer, Provision Dealer, and Coal Dealer, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at the Court-house, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Samuel Taylor*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Samuel Taylor* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 21st day of November instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed.

All persons indebted to the said *Samuel Taylor*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, in Queen-street Wolverhampton the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/11/1859

“The following insolvents obtained their final orders *Samuel Taylor*, Willenhall, retail brewer and coal dealer, passed supported by Mr. Claydon. The insolvent’s liabilities were £148 12s 9d, and his assets in good debts were said to be £49 6s 3d.”

Birmingham Journal 3/3/1860

“To be Sold, cheap, a Beam engine, 11 inch stroke and 4½ inch bore.
Apply Mr. *Richard Wright*, MILL STREET TAVERN, Willenhall.”

1861 Census

Mill Street – Beer House – MILL STREET TAVERN

[1] *Richard Wright* (30), jobbing blacksmith employing 1 man, and beer retailer, born Willenhall;

[2] *Emma Wright* (25), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *Leonard Wright* (2), son, born Willenhall;

[4] *Maria Mason* (17), domestic servant, born Willenhall;

[5] *Joseph Rutter* (22), lodger, key stamper, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/11/1861

“An inquest was held on Monday, before W. H. Phillips, Esq., deputy-coroner, at the MILL STREET TAVERN, on the body of a little girl named Mary Keeling, daughter of Thomas Keeling, locksmith, Mill Street, who had died under the following circumstances: On Friday last deceased, who was only two years and three months old, was playing about in the kitchen where her mother was washing, and unseen by the latter, slipped into a tub of suds, and was suffocated. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/1/1866

“*Richard Wright*, of the MILL STREET TAVERN, Mill Street, was summoned before the Bench on Monday, for selling ale at unlawful hours. Police-constable Dutton proved that, in company with Police-constable Rumny, he visited the defendant’s house, about half-past eleven on Sunday morning the 14th inst., and found three strange men in the house. They also found in a coal box, underneath the bench on which the men were sitting, a jug containing ale. Defendant said the man had come from a distance to see him on business. Fined 20s and costs.”

MINERS ARMS

16, Lower Lichfield Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Abraham Jeffreys [] – 1855);
William Porter (1855 – 1860);
Mrs. Sarah Porter (1860);
Randle Rutter (1860 – 1861);
John Jones (1861 – [1865])
Joseph Gibbons [1868] – [1874]

NOTES

VULCAN AND MINERS ARMS [1860], [1862], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/2/1860

“At the County Police Office, in this town, on Monday last, the following licenses were transferred..... that of the MINERS ARMS, Willenhall, from *William Porter* to *Sarah Porter*, his widow.....”

Randle Rutter = Randal Rutter

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/10/1860

“*Randal Rutter*, landlord of the VULCAN AND MINERS public house, Willenhall, was fined 20s and costs, for keeping open after hours. The defendant had offered to bribe Police-constable Ordish not to report him.”

John Jones was also a miner.

Joseph Gibbons was also a key maker. [1868]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

Joseph Gibbons, VULCAN AND MINERS ARMS, Willenhall, fined 10s and costs for selling during prohibited hours, and 40s and costs for a similar offence on another occasion; this was also appended with the remark ‘very bad house’.”

Joseph Gibbons was described as also a key manufacturer [1870]

He was described as also a rim lock key manufacturer. [1873]

1871 Census

16, Lower Lichfield Street – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *Joseph Gibbons* (48), publican, born Penkridge;
- [2] *Emma Gibbons* (47), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Charles Gibbons* (20), son, key maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Willis (?) Gibbons* (16), son, pad lock smith, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Maria Gibbons* (14), daughter, no occupation, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Eliza Gibbons* (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Alice Gibbons* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Ellen Gibbons* (4), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall:

Closed

MINERS ARMS

New Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Parton [1851]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license,

1851 Census

New Street – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *William Parton* (41), beerhouse keeper and miner, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Elizabeth Parton* (42), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Sarah Parton* (14), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;
- [4] *John Parton* (7) son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Edward Parton* (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Charlotte Parton* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Richard Cartwright* (21), lodger, miner, born Bilston;
- [8] *William Burns* (20), lodger, miner, born Wolverhampton;
- [9] *Elizabeth Cartwright* (18), general servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [10] *Luke Dillam* (14), miner's apprentice, born Potteries:

MINERVA

7, Doctor's Piece, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Rowley [1868] – [1881]
David Noake [1890] – [1892]
Charles Roberts [1894]
William J Cartwright [1896] – [1904]
William Harper [1911] – [1912]

Samuel Perry [1932]
S Holmes [1976]

NOTES

MINERVA TAVERN [1896]

It had a beerhouse license.

John Rowley, beer retailer, Doctors Piece. [1868], [1872]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.

John Rowley, MINERVA TAVERN, Willenhall, 10s and costs.”

1871 Census

7, Doctors Piece

- [1] *John Rowley* (38), publican (retail brewer), born Willenhall;
- [2] Rhoda Rowley (32), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Thomas G. Rowley (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] John C. Rowley (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Jane A. Rowley (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Rhoda Rowley (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] Ann Ash (18), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1881 Census

7, Doctor’s Piece

- [1] *John Rowley* (50), publican employing 1 man, born Willenhall;
- [2] Rhoda Rowley (43), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] John C. Rowley (15), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Rhoda Rowley (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Jane A. Rowley (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Eliza Williams (16), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/2/1890

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *David Noakes*, landlord of the MINERVA INN, Doctor’s Piece, was charged with permitting gaming on the 8th inst. Mr. Whitehouse defended.

Police-constable Tytherleigh deposed to seeing four men sitting at a table playing at cards for money.

Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was fined 30s and costs.”

1891 Census

7, Doctors Piece

- [1] *David Noake* (34), publican and harness maker, born Walsall;
- [2] Desima Noake (22), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Frederick Noake (1), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Rosa Cook (22), domestic servant, born Walsall:

David Noake – see also RISING SUN.

Birmingham Daily Post 24/10/1894

“Mr. Neville (stipendiary) was occupied for a long time yesterday, at the Bilston Police Court, in hearing cases arising out of a raid on public-houses in Bilston, Willenhall, and the neighbourhood.

Charles Roberts, landlord of the MINERVA INN, Doctors Piece, Willenhall, was charged under the Betting Act with permitting his premises to be used for the purposes of betting on September 28 and October 2. The case for the prosecution was that two officers who went to the house saw men write the names of horses on slips of paper and give them, with money, to the landlord. The defendant at first elected to go before a jury, but afterwards pleaded guilty to the offence on the 2nd inst, and a fine of £7 and costs was imposed.”

1901 Census

7, Doctors Piece

- [1] *William Cartwright* (40), beerhouse keeper, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] Elizabeth Cartwright (36), wife, born Short Heath;
- [3] Archibald Cartwright (10), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Walter A. Cartwright (7), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] William L. Cartwright (2), son, born Willenhall:

William J. Cartwright, beer retailer, 7, Doctors Piece. [1904]

1911 Census

7, Doctors Piece

- [1] *William Harper* (60), beer retailer, born Willenhall;
- [2] Harriet Harper (52), wife, married 34 years, born Longton, Staffordshire;
- [3] Elizabeth Harper (20), daughter, mother's help, born Walsall;
- [4] William Harper (19), son, moulder, born Walsall;
- [5] Maud Harper (16), son, presser, born Walsall;
- [6] Elise Harper (5), daughter, born Walsall:

William Harper, beer retailer, 7, Doctor's Piece. [1912]

Samuel Perry, beer retailer, 7, Doctors Piece. [1932]

Closed [pre December 1982]

It became offices.

MODEL TAVERN

26, (31), Clarkes Lane, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mrs. Maria Mason
Frederick Smith and Co. (leased)

LICENSEES

Maria Mason [1871] – [1891]
Orson Madeley [1901] – [1907]

NOTES

31, Clarks Lane [1871]
26, Clarks Lane [1881], [1891], [1901]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

1871 Census

31, Clarks Lane

- [1] *Maria Mason* (40), widow, born Bilston;
- [2] Joseph Mason (16), son, farm labourer, born Willenhall;
- [3] James Mason (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] George Mason (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

1881 Census

26, Clarks Lane

- [1] *Maria Mason* (49), widow, beer innkeeper, born Bilston;
- [2] Joseph Mason (26), son, general labourer, born Willenhall;
- [3] George Mason (18), son, general labourer, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

26, Clarks Lane – Beer House

- [1] *Maria Mason* (60), widow, publican, born Bilston;
- [2] Joseph Mason (38), son, brick setter, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

26, Clarks Lane – MODEL TAVERN

- [1] *Orson Madeley* (34), cycle maker and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Laura Madeley (30), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Nellie Madeley (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Joseph Madeley (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Charles Madeley (6 months), son, born Willenhall:

Orson Madeley, beer retailer, Clarks Lane. [1904]

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/2/1907

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Seisdon division of the county were held on Monday. The Chairman said there were in the division 284 licensed houses, which gave one for every 196 inhabitants. If they calculated a family as consisting of five persons, it really meant that for every 40 men there was one public house. That there were too many public houses he did not think there were two opinions, and the difficulty which licensed persons had to make an honest living was apparent when he stated that last year one in every five of the licensed holders applied for transfers. The consideration of the renewals of licences that had been adjourned was taken, and, with the exception of five were renewed. These five were.....

the MODEL TAVERN, Clark’s Lane, Willenhall.....

After taking evidence, the magistrates adjourned the consideration of all the cases.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1907

“County Licensing Compensation Authority.

The principal meeting of the County Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1904, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford on Tuesday.....

In the Wolverhampton Division, the following houses were scheduled.....

MODEL TAVERN, Clarks Lane, Willenhall, beerhouse (ante-1869), *Orson Madeley*.....

In the case of the MODEL TAVERN, Mr. Graham Milward, barrister, applied for the renewal on behalf of the lessee and tenant. Superintendent Spendlove said this was a very old house, belonging to Mrs. *Maria Mason*, of Willenhall, and was tied to an Aston brewery. The net ratable value was £21 14s. The drinking accommodation was not bad, but the living accommodation was very bad. The NOAHS ARK was alone sufficient to supply the wants of the district. Inspector Beech, of Willenhall gave evidence as to redundancy. Mr. Frederick Smith, managing director of Messrs. F. Smith and Co., brewers, Aston, said his firm were the lessees of the house, and last year they did 185 barrels of ale and about 300 dozen bottled goods. A very steady trade was, in his opinion, done at the house. He was prepared to have any necessary structural alterations carried out within a month. *Orson Madeley*, the licensee, W. Hartshorn, and Edward Dunkley, customers, were called to prove that the licence was required. Mr. Milward urged that there was a genuine need for the retention of the house, and Mr. Willcock, on behalf of the owner, said she was an old lady entirely dependent upon the rent she received from these premises and the contributions of her son. The renewal of the licence was refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/7/1907

“A supplemental meeting of the County Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Wednesday and Thursday, to consider the amount of compensation to be awarded in the case of licenses the renewal of which was refused at the principal meeting.....

MODEL TAVERN, Clarks Lane, Willenhall (owner Mrs. *Maria Mason*), £900.”

Closed

NAGS HEAD

Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Samuel Richards [1859]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/4/1859

“On Wednesday morning a special sitting of the Justices, the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq, was held at the Police Office, for the purpose of adjudicating upon a number of cases under the Weights and Measures Act. The following is the result of the investigation, costs being granted in each case.....

Samuel Richards, NAGS HEAD, Portobello, 3s 6d.”

NAVIGATION

39, Fibbersley, (Wednesfield Road), Ashmore Lake, (Little London), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Atkinsons Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Punch Taverns [2005]

LICENSEES

Edwin Badger [1868] – [1881]

John Henry Chester [1891] – [1892]

Samuel Eastwood [1896]

John Henry Chester [1899]

Samuel Eastwood [1901] – [1907]

Arthur Tonks [1908] – [1911]

Daniel Banks [1911] – [1912]

Arthur Davis [1916] – [1921]

Bert Roberts []

Harry Pearson [1932] – [1940]

Kiah Brice (1940 – 1965)

Jack Collinson [1970]

Doug Stone [1991]

Paul Douglas [2007]

NOTES

Wednesfield Road [1908], [1911], [1932], [1940]

It was built c.1843.

It had a beerhouse license.

It was a home brewed house.

It had a bowling green.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/4/1855 - Marriages

“March 29, at Bushbury, by the Rev. W. Lister, Mr. *Edwin Badger*, of Ashmore Lake, formerly of Essington, to Ann, only daughter of Mr. Walker, Pool Hays Mill, near Willenhall.”

Edwin Badger, beer retailer, Wednesfield Road. [1868], [1872]

1871 Census

Fibbersley – NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *Edwin Badger* (42), farmer of 30 acres, born Essington, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Ann Badger* (38), wife, born Pool Hayes;
- [3] *Fanny Louisa Badger* (9), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Sarah Peters* (14), general servant, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/7/1872 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Mineral Estate, called Fibbersley, situate at Little London, near Willenhall.

To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Walker and H. J. Lloyd, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, the 14th day of August, 1872, at five o’clock in the evening, all that very valuable Freehold Estate known as Fibbersley, situate at Little London, in the township of Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, together with the NAVIGATION INN, and the 17 other messuages standing on part thereof, containing in the whole 37a 2r 12p and now in the respective occupations of Messrs. *Edwin Badger*, *John Nicholls*, and others.

Together with the very valuable Mines of Coal, Ironstone, and other Minerals under the said Estate, and also under the Birmingham Canal intersecting the same (subject to the rights of the Canal Company), and under one-half of the roads adjoining the said lands.

For further particulars and plans, apply to Messrs. Rutter, Neve, and Rutter, Solicitors; Mr. Woodcock, Surveyor; and the Auctioneers, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1876

“*Charles Wyke* was fined 10s and costs for refusing to quit the NAVIGATION INN, Little London, Willenhall, when, being drunk and disorderly, he was requested to do so.”

1881 Census

Fibbersley

- [1] *Edwin Badger* (54), farmer of 22 acres employing 1 man, and beer seller, born Essington;
- [2] *Anne Badger* (50), wife, born Pool Hayes;
- [3] *Fanny L. Badger* (19), daughter, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

Ashmore Lake – NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *John Chester* (26), farmer and publican, born Wednesfield;
- [2] *Hannah Chester* (31), wife, birthplace unknown;
- [3] *Susannah Chester* (7), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Sarah Furness* (20), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

It was the headquarters of Willenhall City FC in the 1890s.

Birmingham Daily Post 28/5/1900

“Further particulars have been received of the sudden death and burial of Private *W. A. Bakewell*, a member of the Wolverhampton troop of the Staffordshire Yeomanry, whose home was the NAVIGATION INN, Willenhall. He was in the second section of the Imperial Yeomanry, the officer in command being Lieutenant *Wight Boycott*, of Pattingham. While marching from Dewetsdorp on Good Friday *Bakewell* was seized with a fit and died. He was buried shortly afterwards, the burial service being read by Lieutenant *Wight Boycott*.”

1901 Census

Fibbersley

- [1] *Samuel Eastwood* (45), farmer and licensed victualler, born Heath Town;
- [2] *Hannah Eastwood* (47), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Harriet Bakewell* (25), daughter, widow, born Heath Town;
- [4] *Beatie Bakewell* (6), granddaughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Henry George* (32), brother in law, boot shop assistant, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Alice Richards* (19), general servant, born Essington:

Birmingham Mail 5/3/1906

“At the Wolverhampton County Police Court today an application for a full license to sell spirits was made by the licensee of the NAVIGATION INN, near Willenhall.

In answer to Mr. Turton, who objected, it was stated that the cricket club, which had its ground close to the inn, had asked for the extension of the license.

Mr. Turton: The cricket club members cannot bowl on tea, coffee, and beer; they want whisky.

The application was refused.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1906

“At the adjourned Brewster Sessions for the Hundred of Seisdon North, held at Wolverhampton yesterday, an application was refused for a full license for the NAVIGATION beerhouse, situate at Fibbersley, between Wednesfield and Willenhall, notwith-

standing the plea urged that the members of a cricket club and bowling club held in the locality occasionally required spirituous refreshment, for which they had to send to Willenhall.”

1911 Census

Wednesfield Road – NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *Daniel Banks* (51), locksmith and beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Clara Banks* (47), wife, married 29 years, assisting in the business, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Albert Banks* (28), son, die sinker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Beatrice Banks* (29), son’s wife, married 1 year, assisting in the business, born Bilston;
- [5] *Emily Smith* (19), niece, assisting in the business, born Manchester:

Daniel Banks – see also CROWN, Cheapside, and TRUE BRITON.

South Staffordshire Times 23/4/1921

“A meeting of Willenhall Town Bowling Club was held at the headquarters, NAVIGATION INN, on Saturday, when it was decided to compete again in the Wolverhampton and Bilston Leagues, and also for the Association cups.....”

1939 Register

Fibbersley – NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *Harry Pearson*, date of birth 10/6/1884, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Jane A. Pearson*, dob 21/5/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Lilian H. (Pearson) Jones*, dob 8/5/1918, warehouse wrapper, single;
- [4] *Mary L. (Pearson) Gray*, dob 3/10/1920, unpaid domestic duties, single;
- [5] *Henry Pearson*, dob 29/12/1921, cabinet lock maker, single;
- [6] *Joseph Pearson*, dob 23/1/1924, mortice lock maker, single;
- [8] *Henry Proffitt*, dob 1/9/1866, retired locksmith, widowed:

Kiah Brice died in 1965.

Jack Collinson was married to *Ida*.

Doug Stone was chairman of Wolverhampton Licensed Victuallers’ Association.

[2016]

NEPTUNE

42, Bilston Lane, (Bilston Road), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1967]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Avebury Taverns Ltd. (acquired in 1999)

LICENSEES

William Richardson [1940]

NOTES

Bilston Road [1940]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/5/1951

“The *Birmingham Gazette* Singles Lawn Tennis Championships, now in its second post-war year, has attracted more entries than ever Boys.....

P. W. Richards, the NEPTUNE, Bilston Lane, Willenhall.”

Advert 1985

“The NEPTUNE, Bilston Lane.
Talent contest, every Tuesday. Commencing January 8, 1985.
Singers, comedians, duos, novelty acts, etc. (No groups).
Cash prize for final winners.
All entrants please ring Willenhall 65444.”

It was refurbished in 2000.

Closed [2006]
Demolished [2009]
Housing was built on the site.

NEPTUNE

62, (5), Walsall Street, (Church Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Isaac Harthill [1818] – [1830]
Henry Harthill [1833] – [1842]
George Baker [1845] – [1885]
William Henry Aston [1890] – [1892]
Albert Vincent Slater [1896]
John Kingston [1901]
William C Worthington [1904]
Francis Haydn Roberts [1908]
William Collins [1911] – [1912]
William Harry Robinson [1914] – [1916]
Harry Burke [1921]
Walter Rinder [1930]
Mrs. Hannah Moreton [1932]

NOTES

Walsall Street [1828]
Church Street [1833], [1850], [1851]
5, Walsall Street [1871]
62, Walsall Street [1881], [1891], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1932]

The Royal Mail coach to Birmingham left from here every evening at 6. [1828]
The Royal Mail coach to Lichfield left from here every morning at 6. [1828]

Isaac Harthill = Isaac Hartill

Henry Harthill = Henry Hartill

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1837 - Advert

“To The Electors Of The Borough Of Wolverhampton.....

Any communication in favour of Mr. Benbow and Captain Burton’s election will be thankfully received at the following places and houses where the gentlemen conducting their election sit daily.....
Willenhall, the NEPTUNE.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1837

“A considerable number of electors assembled at the NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall, on Thursday evening, to meet the Conservative candidates for this borough, Mr. Benbow and Captain Burton.

Mr. Mason, of Bilston, begged to introduce to them the Conservative candidates, Mr. Benbow and Captain Ryder Burton, who, if returned to parliament as their representatives, would diligently and faithfully protect the rights and attend to the interests of the borough. The meeting must see how important it was to return gentlemen of sound constitutional principles. (Loud cheers.).....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/11/1840 - Advert

“Manor of Stow Heath.

The Cottagers within the Manor of Stow Heath, are required to pay their Rents and Arrears to the Lord’s Bailiff.....

At the NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall, on Monday and Tuesday, the 23rd and 24th days of November instant.....

Between the hours of eleven and four o’clock.

Such persons as have already Grants or Leases of their Cottages for Lives or Years are desired to produce them.

Every tenant will be required to produce his last receipt.

By Order of his Grace the Duke of Sutherland, and Thomas William Giffard, Esq, Lords of the Manor.

Thomas Gibbons, Lords Bailiff. Wolverhampton, November 7, 1840.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/2/1841

“Robert Crump, a decently dressed man, was charged with stealing a mare, the property Mr. *H. Harthill*, the NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall.

Thomas Johns, servant to Mr. *Harthill*, stated that on Friday evening last he took the mare to his master’s field, and left her there. She had, it appeared, a bridle of some sort round her neck, fastened in a particular manner; this next morning he found in the field, but the mare was gone, and he had not seen her since. He gave information to his master, and to Phillips, the constable. The witness was directed to go and see the mare at the door of the office, which he did and identified it as his master’s property.

Benjamin Hall, a farmer and publican, living at Aldridge, said that the prisoner came to his house on Saturday morning, and put the mare into the stable. He said he was a horse dealer, and wished to sell the horse to witness for £6; but witness said he did not want it, having horses enough. As the mare had no halter or bridle, and the conduct of the prisoner was suspicious, witness thought the mare was stolen, and informed the constable of the place, who took the prisoner into custody. The mare now at the door of the office was the same that the prisoner brought to his house.

Thomas Martin, the constable, stated that he took the prisoner into custody. He at first said his name was Robert Wilkes, afterwards that it was Robert Crump. It then appeared that the prisoner told a story about having swapped a pony for the mare; but in the end he said he had taken the mare from a brickfield near Willenhall, and the witness went to that place, and upon making inquiry found that the mare belonged to Mr. Hartill. The prisoner told Martin he did it for want.

Mr. Hartill stated that on being informed of the loss of his mare he went to Birmingham to look for her, but of course without avail. On his return he heard of the inquiries that had been made by the constable of Aldridge, and went to see the mare, and found it to be his property.

Thomas Phillips, constable, of Wednesfield, said that Martin gave the prisoner into his custody, at Willenhall. The prisoner told him (Phillips) that he had been drinking till late the night before at a beershop, which he (Phillips) knew to be true; that he then went to sleep in the brickfield, and after he had slept two or three hours he got up and took the mare, but he did not know it was Mr. Hartill’s. He said he did it for want. Phillips added that he had known the prisoner thirty years.

The prisoner said nothing in reply to the charge, and was committed to the assizes.”

1841 Census

Walsall Street

[1] *Henry Harthill* (45), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Ann Harthill* (50), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Susan Perks* (14), fs, born Staffordshire;

[4] *Margrett Brevitt* (19), fs, born Staffordshire;

[5] *Lucy Sheppard* (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

George Baker was also a builder. [1845], [1849], [1850]

1851 Census

Walsall Street

[1] *George Baker* (32), victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] *Lucy Baker* (38), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *James Hodson* (18), son, carpenter, born Willenhall;

[4] *Benjamin Baker* (8), son born Willenhall;

[5] *Lucy Baker* (6), daughter, born Willenhall;

[6] *George Baker* (4), son, born Willenhall;

[7] *Sarah Baker* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;

[8] *James Phillips* (20), servant, brewer, born Willenhall;

[9] *Mary Foster* (24), servant, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/7/1853

“Lodge 56 of the ancient order of Druids celebrated its forty-third anniversary at the NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall, on Tuesday last. The lodge numbers 160 members, about 155 of whom assembled on the occasion, and went in procession to St. Giles’s Church,

whence, after an appropriate sermon by the Rev. George Fisher, they returned to the inn to dinner. After dinner the health of Mr. Fisher, and thanks for his sermon, and the health of Mr. Hartill, the surgeon, and thanks for his attendance to the sick members of the lodge, were drunk. The lodge is in a flourishing condition, having £1,300 in the hands of its treasurer.”

Worcester Journal 21/1/1854

“South Staffordshire Election.....

On Tuesday Lord Ingestre addressed the electors at public meetings held at the NEPTUNE, Willenhall; the DUKE OF YORK, Darlaston; the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall; and the DARTMOUTH HOTEL, and Princess Assembly Rooms, Westbromwich.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/7/1858 - Notice

“County Of Stafford. Weights And Measures. District C, or South Staffordshire.

Notice is hereby given, the William Tullett, the Inspector of Weights and Measures for District C, or South Staffordshire, will attend at the undermentioned times and places, for the purpose of comparing and examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to him for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct.....

At the NEPTUNE INN, at Willenhall, on Mondays, July 19th, August 16th, and September 13th, at one o'clock pm.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/7/1858

“Yesterday (Tuesday), the annual meeting of Lodge 56 of the ancient and venerable order of Druids was held at the NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall. Precisely at twelve o'clock the members, numbering upwards of 150, formed in procession, headed by the Rev. G. H. Fisher, incumbent of Willenhall, and Mr. J. Hartill, surgeon to the society, and attended by the Bilston brass band. They first proceeded to the RED LION INN, where they were joined by the Female Sick and Burial Society, consisting of upwards of 70 members. After parading the town they walked to St. Giles Church, where an appropriate sermon was preached by the rev. incumbent. At the close of the service the Druids adjourned to the NEPTUNE, where they partook of dinner. After the cloth was drawn, Mr. Hartill, surgeon, was called upon to preside; Mr. Isaac Constable officiating as vice-president. Mr. Sturney, the secretary, read the report, which showed an accession of members and an increase in funds, the available amount at the present time being £1,419 6s 6d. The remainder of the afternoon was spent in a very agreeable manner.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/8/1859

“There are few small towns that possess so many provident societies, so well supported by the working classes, for whose benefit they are especially intended, as are to be found at Willenhall, a fact which must be considered as indicative of the frugal habits of the inhabitants. On Monday no fewer than five of these societies or clubs held their annual anniversaries.....

The members of Lodge No.7 of Benevolent Loyal Britons met at the NEPTUNE INN, Walsall Street, where upwards of sixty-five sat down to a substantial dinner, provided by the host, Mr. *George Baker*. The Secretary, Mr. Willis Butler, presided, and Mr. James Wood was vice-president. The financial statement showed that there was a balance of £494 in the hands of the treasurer, in favour of the society.”

George Baker was described as being also a carpenter. [1861]

1861 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *George Baker* (41), innkeeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Lucy Baker (50), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Benjamin Baker (18), son, land surveyor, born Willenhall;
- [4] Lucy Baker (15), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *George Baker* (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] John Baker (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Hannah Ridway (18), servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] Edward Stevens (24), visitor, analytical chemist, born Sherborne, Dorset:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/1/1861 - Advert

“County Of Stafford. Weights And Measures. District C, or South Staffordshire.

Notice is Hereby Given that William Tullett, the Inspector of Weights and Measures.....

Will attend at the undermentioned Times and Places for the purpose of Comparing and Examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to him for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct.....

At the NEPTUNE INN, at Willenhall, on Tuesdays, January 15th, February 12th, and March 12th, at two o'clock pm.....

All persons residing in the said District, desirous of having their Weights and Measures Stamped, may bring or send them to any of the above places for adjustment, as shall be convenient; or to No.29, King Street, Wolverhampton, on any other than the days above appointed.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/4/1861

“*George Baker*, who has lately been serving a term of six month's imprisonment in Stafford gaol for an offence committed at Walsall, was charged, at the Police Court, on Monday last, with having stolen an overcoat from the NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall, in September last. The prisoner went to Willenhall wakes last September with Man's circus, and took lodgings at the house of Mr. *Baker*, the NEPTUNE INN. On the morning of the 19th he left the house at an early hour, and took away with him a top coat

which he had abstracted from a chest of drawers in his bedroom. As he left the house he gave his old coat to a man named Bate, who had been sleeping in the kitchen. The old coat, it turned out, was only borrowed property, for the prisoner had got it of the village barber, Mr. Thomas Booth, who dressed his hair two or three times a day. He told Mr. Booth he was a gentleman from London, where he performed for £100 a night, and that he had only come down to Willenhall to give the poor devils at Man's a lift. On Booth being cross-examined by Mr. D. Taylor, who appeared in defence, he said that he was an artist. Mr. Taylor: An artist! What in, sir? – Witness: In hair, sir. (Laughter.) The prisoner was committed for trial at the sessions.”

1871 Census

5, Walsall Street – NEPTUNE INN

- [1] *George Baker* (50), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
- [2] Lucy Baker (61), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Benjamin Baker (28), son, engineer and surveyor, born Willenhall;
- [4] Sarah Baker (21), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] John Baker (19), son, surveyor's assistant, born Willenhall;
- [6] Mary Aston (17), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/3/1872 - Notice

“County of Stafford. Weights and Measures, District C, or South Staffordshire.

Notice is hereby given, that I shall attend at the undermentioned times and places for the purpose of Comparing and Examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to me for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct.....

At the NEPTUNE INN, at Willenhall, on Tuesdays, April 16th and May 14th, 1872, at ten o'clock am.....

All persons residing in the said District desirous of having their Weights and Measures stamped should bring or send them to any of the above places for adjustment, as shall be most convenient, upon the days and at the hours mentioned.

Persons within any local jurisdiction for which a separate Inspector is appointed cannot have their Weights and Measures Examined or Stamped by the County Inspector.

J. George Horder. Inspector of Weights and Measures for District C, or South Staffordshire.

Goldthorn Hill, Wolverhampton, March 16th, 1872.”

A dinner for local gentry was held here, on 18th December 1873, to celebrate the installation of the bells at St. Giles Church.

1881 Census

62, Walsall Street

- [1] *George Baker* (60), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
- [2] Lucey Baker (71), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] George Baker (33), son, solicitor and clerk to Willenhall School Board, born Willenhall;
- [4] Sarah Baker (31), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Arthur Hodson (19), grandson, die sinker, born Willenhall;
- [6] Eliza Tyler (19), domestic servant, born Mossabaths (?), Leicestershire;
- [7] Ellen Evans (68), visitor, annuitant, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Express and Star 7/3/1885

“Willenhall. Six-roomed House, newly papered and painted; 5s 6d week, no rates.

Mr. *Baker*, NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 10/12/1885

“Mr. W. H. Phillips, district coroner, held an inquest at the NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall, this (Thursday) afternoon, on view of the body of Fanny Leek, aged 14 days, infant daughter of Charles Leek, locksmith.

It was shown in evidence that the child had suffered from a bad cold and a very much inflamed eye. On the mother awaking on Tuesday morning she found the child dead, the hands being clenched and the legs contracted as though death had resulted from convulsions.

A verdict of Natural Causes was returned by the jury.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/7/1890

“Annie Jane Smith and Priscilla Baldwin, gipsies, both on bail, were charged with obtaining the sum of 4s 6d by false pretences, from Clara *Aston*, at Willenhall. Mr. Kettle prosecuted, and Mr. Boddam defended.

Prosecutor's wife stated that she kept the NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall. On May 13, 1890, prisoners came to that house, and had some beer and ginger-beer. Smith then enquired the price of spirits and ordered a quantity of brandy, rum, and gin, amounting to 16s 8d. Prisoner said she had a show a little higher up, and asked for a loan of 4s 6d. On the strength of that representation witness lent the money. For the defence it was alleged that brushes were sold for the amount obtained.

In answer to the Chairman, Mr. Kettle said he did not think he could prove the case, and he elected to offer no further evidence. After some hesitation the jury acquitted the prisoners.”

1891 Census

62, Walsall Street

- [1] *William H. Aston* (29), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Clara H. Aston (29), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Edith M. Wilmore (4), niece, born Darlaston;
- [4] Francis Wyse (27), domestic servant, born Germany:

1901 Census

62, Walsall Street

- [1] *John Kingston* (30), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sarah Kingston (28), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Lily Kingston (8), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Elsie Kingston (6), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Ethel Kingston (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Lottie Kingston (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] Joseph Sheppard (52), boarder, general carrier, born Willenhall;
- [8] Charlotte Sheppard (49), boarder, born Ireland:

1911 Census

62, Walsall Street

- [1] *William Collins* (62), manager, publican, born Gornal, near Dudley;
- [2] Mary Ann Collins (60), wife, married 35 years, born Tipton;
- [3] Mariah Oakley (20), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/2/1914

“*William Harry Robinson*, licensee of the NEPTUNE INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and also for selling drink to a drunken person on January 26. Mr. R. Tildesley prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. Eales, barrister, Birmingham (instructed by Messrs. Baker and Meek, Willenhall), defended.

It was alleged that the police found a man named Rissbrook in a drunken state on the premises.

The defence was that as far as the landlord could tell Rissbrook was quite sober when he entered the house and that the drink was ordered by the latter’s friend.

The Bench imposed a fine of £3 and costs, to include solicitor’s fee. The second charge was withdrawn on payment of costs. The total was £6 3s 6d.

John Rissbrook, Walsall Street, Willenhall, was summoned for being drunk on the premises on the same date. The defendant, who denied the charge, was fined 2s 6d and costs, a total of 9s.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/3/1930

“Fines amounting to £50, together with £6 1s costs, were imposed upon *Walter Rinder* (45), licensee of the NEPTUNE INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, by the Willenhall magistrates yesterday. He was summoned for selling intoxicating liquors during non-permitted hours, and [4 men and 2 women] were summoned for consuming. *Rinder* was also summoned for aiding and abetting this.

There was a whist drive at some schools near the inn on the night of 13 February, and between 10.35pm and 11.8pm 14 persons, it was alleged, were seen to enter the premises, and during the same period 24 persons were seen to leave. At 11.10pm Inspector Gough and two constables entered the house and found the defendants, some with glasses containing beer, and near one a glass containing the dregs of port wine.

Rinder was fined as stated, and the four other male defendants were fined £2 each. The summonses against the female defendants were dismissed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1937

“Twelve applications for the confirmation of licence removals remained to be heard by the Staffordshire Licensing Confirmation Committee when they resumed their sitting at Stafford on Tuesday. Sir William Goodwin (chairman) presided.....

The justices approved six removals in the Willenhall Division. In several cases it was stated that the licence would be transferred from old houses in congested areas to modern premises in newly developed districts. In consideration the brewery companies would surrender other licences. The removals were as follows.....

Removal of full licence of the NEPTUNE, Walsall Street, to premises proposed to be erected in Bilston Lane.”

Closed

Birmingham Mail 21/7/1951

“Nine families, squatters in the old and dilapidated NEPTUNE INN at Willenhall, have been warned that unless they are out of the premises by August 10 they will be forcibly removed.....”

Demolished

NEW HOTEL

WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

W Comley []

NOTES

W. Comley issued tokens from here.

NEW INN

Cannock Road, (Willenhall Road), New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1922]

LICENSEES

Moses Parkes [1881] – [1909]

Ernest Lawrence [1922]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

1881 Census

Bloxwich Road, Willenhall

[1] *Moses Parkes* (45), beer seller and key smith, born Wednesfield;

[2] Selina Parkes (30), wife, born New Invention;

[3] Moses Parkes (8), son, born New Invention;

[4] Mary Parkes (6), daughter, born New Invention:

1891 Census

New Invention Road – NEW INN

[1] *Moses Parkes* (52), beerhouse keeper and key smith, born Wednesfield;

[2] Selina Parkes (40), wife, born New Invention;

[3] Moses Parkes jnr. (18), son, key smith, born New Invention;

[4] Mary J. Parkes (16), daughter, dress maker, born New Invention;

[5] Minnie Parkes (7), daughter, scholar, born New Invention;

[6] Thomas Parkes (21), nephew, file cutter, born New Invention;

[7] Henry Garrattley (43), boarder, coal miner, born Winkhill, Wiltshire;

[8] George Hows (66), boarder, coal miner, born Shrewsbury:

1901 Census

Willenhall Road – NEW INN

[1] *Moses Parkes* (62), inn keeper, born Willenhall;

[2] Selina Parkes (51), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Minnie Parkes (17), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] Arthur Dohnau (13) servant, horse attendant, born Willenhall;

[5] James Hunt (53), boarder, general farm labourer, born Willenhall;
[6] Henry Garrettly (46), boarder, below ground coal hewer, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 16/1/1909

“At the Willenhall Police Court on Monday.....

James Hunt, who lodges at the NEW INNS, New Invention, was also charged with cruelty to animals by working a lame horse on the 5th January; and *Moses Parkes*, the licensee of the NEW INNS, the owner of the animal, was summoned for causing the cruelty. Hunt was ordered to pay 8s and Parkes 2s 6d and 10s 6d costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 11/12/1909

“A charge of being drunk on the licensed premises of *Moses Parkes*, NEW INNS, Willenhall Road, New Invention, was preferred at the Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, before Dr. J. T. Harthill and Mr. J. H. James, against John Homer (48), of Wolverhampton Road, New Invention, and *Moses Parkes* was summoned for permitting drunkenness and selling ale to a drunken person.

Mr. A. Turton (Wolverhampton) prosecuted, and Mr. W. A. Foster (Wolverhampton) defended.

The case was that on November 6th Homer was served in the NEW INNS while he was drunk.

Mr. Foster pleaded guilty to the charge against *Moses Parkes*. It was true that on the day in question Homer went into the house, and no one observed that he was suffering from the consequences of drink, and he was supplied with a pint of beer by the old man’s daughter. There had been no attempt to conceal the fact. The old man was 74 years of age, and had kept the house for 40 years, and had never had a single complaint about its conduct. It was a tremendously good record. Neither Mr. Turton nor the police wished to press the case. There had been an oversight, and he thought the case would be met by payment of costs.

Superintendent Pilliner said the house had been conducted for 40 years without a complaint.

The magistrates fined Homer 5s and costs, 6s 6d, with an alternative of seven days, and Parkes £1 and costs, £3 5s 6d, for permitting drunkenness. The charge of selling ale was dismissed on payment of costs, 5s.”

South Staffordshire Times 27/7/1922

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

The licenses of the NEW INN, New Invention (*Ernest Lawrence*) were also refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/8/1922

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County of Stafford.

Notice as to sending in Claims to be treated as Persons Interested in Licensed Premises.

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

NEW INN, New Invention. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Ernest Lawrence*. Registered owners, Frank Myatt Ltd.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/10/1922

“A Supplementary Meeting of the Staffordshire Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1910, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday. The Committee approved the following awards of compensation.....

NEW INN, New Invention, beerhouse, ante 1869, £1,500.”

It closed in 1922, after £1,500 compensation was paid.

NEW INN

39, (38+39), High Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Jewkes [1846]

Richard Brevitt [1861] – [1862]

Mrs. Ursula Brevitt [1862] – [1881]

Harriet Brotherton [1891]

John Southan [1908] – [1912]

James Savage [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

NEW INNS [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/11/1846 - Advert

“Freehold Public House, Messuages, And Premises, At Portobello, Willenhall, Staffordshire.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Mr. William Parkes, By direction of the mortgagee under a power of sale, on Friday, the 13th day of November instant, at five o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mr. H. W. Greader, the ALBION INN, in Willenhall aforesaid, subject to conditions then and there to be produced.

All that newly erected substantial Public House, called the NEW INN, situate at Portobello, Willenhall, fronting the Wolverhampton Road and New Street, with good parlour, front and back kitchens, excellent cellaring, with large and good sleeping rooms, brewhouse, washhouse, and two pumps of very good water, with the outbuildings and appurtenances thereto belonging, and now in the possession of Mr. *John Jewkes*, at the low rental of £16 per annum.

And also all those Three other newly erected Tenements or Dwelling Houses, adjoining to the above premises, and fronting to New Street, with their appurtenances, and now in the several occupations of William Hodson, Thomas Clarke, and Pelham Reynolds, and producing at low rents, the annual sum of £19 10s.

The above property is very desirably situated from its thriving locality, and a fine opportunity for an investment.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Smith, solicitor, Rushall Street, Walsall, or the Auctioneers, Willenhall.”

1861 Census

Portobello

[1] *Richard Brevitt* (55), locksmith, grocer and publican, born Willenhall;

[2] *Ursula Brevitt* (52), wife, born Wednesbury;

[3] *Jesse Brevitt* (17), son, pupil teacher, born Portobello;

[4] *George Brevitt* (14), son, locksmith, born Portobello;

[5] *Martha Miller* (20), servant, born Bestom, Oxfordshire;

[6] *Thomas Anslow* (33), engine driver, born Brewood;

[7] *George Kelley* (20), apprentice locksmith, born Hinckley, Leicestershire;

[8] *William Foulke* (55), lodger, locksmith, born Willenhall;

[9] *John Holder* (44), lodger, keymaker, born Tettenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/2/1862

“On Wednesday last an inquest was held on the body of Mr. *Richard Brevitt*, landlord of the NEW INN, Portobello, and lock manufacturer, who lost his life under the following accidental circumstances. Among the works at the rear of his inn was placed a small engine and machine for file grinding, to which deceased himself attended. To this work he went on Friday evening, and it is supposed that whilst attending to the engine he fell down in a fit, as he was found shortly afterwards lying on the ground insensible, and the fly-wheel of the engine beating against his head. He was at once picked up and medical assistance called in, when it was found that his skull was fractured, and he died from the injuries on Monday morning.”

Ursula Brevitt = Ursula Brent

Ursula Brevitt, retailer of beer, Portobello. [1862]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/5/1866

“*Ursula Brevitt*, keeper of the NEW INN beerhouse, Portobello, was summoned before the Magistrates, on Monday, for having her beerhouse open at unlawful hours. Police-constable Dutton proved that on Sunday, the 6th instant, at half-past eight o'clock in the morning, he saw a woman named Green, come out of the defendant's house with a jug of ale in her hand. Parish-constable Plant gave corroborative evidence, and the defendant was ordered to pay a fine of 5s and costs.”

Mrs. *Ursula Brevitt*, beer retailer and rim lock maker, High Street, Portobello. [1868]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates' office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Ursula Brent, NEW INN, Portobello, 5s and costs.”

Mrs. *Ursula Brevitt*, beer retailer, High Street, Portobello. [1872]

1871 Census

High Street

- [1] *Ursula Brevitt* (62), widow, publican, born Bilston;
- [2] Martha Miller (32), domestic servant, born Bista [**Bicester**], Oxfordshire;
- [3] Isaac Carter (25), boarder, rim lock maker, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] John Holder (57), boarder, key maker, born Tettenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/9/1876

“*Ursula Brevitt*, of the NEW INN, Portobello, Willenhall, was fined 10s and costs for selling beer during prohibited hours.”

1881 Census

39, High Street, Portobello – NEW INN

- [1] *Ursula Brevitt* (72), widow, beer seller, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Brevitt (19), granddaughter, born Portobello;
- [3] Martha Miller (41), general servant, born Bicester, Oxfordshire:

Ursula Brevitt died in the 1st quarter of 1887, aged 78.

1891 Census

38+39, High Street – NEW INNS

- [1] *Harriet Brotherton* (54), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Shifnal, Shropshire;
- [2] Samuel Brotherton (34), son, imbecile, born Heath Town;
- [3] Fred W. Brotherton (14), son, office boy, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Harriet Warrender (24), visitor, born Upton, Gloucestershire;
- [5] Harriet Richards (18), general servant, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

39, High Street

- [1] *John Southan* (47), miner, born Willenhall;
- [2] Elizabeth Southan (37), wife, married 12 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] Florence Anslow (25), daughter, married, born Willenhall;
- [4] Ernest Southan (21), son, stamper, born Willenhall;
- [5] Annie Southan (18), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Arthur Southan (12), son, school, born Willenhall;
- [7] Jessie Southan (11), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
- [8] Joseph Southan (9), son, school, born Willenhall;
- [9] Ariet [**Harriet?**] Southan (7), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
- [10] Olive Southan (6), daughter, school, born Willenhall:

John Southan, beer retailer, 39, High Street, Portobello. [1912]

Darlaston Celtic had its headquarters here. [1920s]

1939 Register

39, High Street (5 of 8)

- [1] *James Savage*, date of birth 18/11/1892, licensed beerhouse, married;
- [2] Florrie (Florence) Savage, dob 16/12/1899, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] James D. Savage, dob 31/10/1922, electrician's mate, single;
- [4] Joan (Savage) Proffitt, dob 16/2/1926, at school, single;
- [5] Terence Savage, dob 12/3/1929, at school, single;

Walsall Observer 16/9/1944

“There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers' Society held on Thursday at the NEW INN, Willenhall. Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair.....”

It was a pigeon fliers' pub. [1950s]

[1983]

Closed

It became a balti restaurant.

NEW INN

Spring Vale Street, Spring Bank, Little London, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Showell and Sons Ltd. [1913]

LICENSEES

Francis Evans [1862] – [1869]

George Reynolds [1911] – [1913]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Francis Evans, retailer of beer, Spring Bank. [1862]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/10/1863 - Advert

“By Messrs Aston and Sollom. To be Sold by Auction, by order of the late Mr. Samuel Cooper, on Thursday, October 15th, 1863, at Six o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. Greader, the ALBION INN, Willenhall, subject to Conditions to be read at the time of sale and in one lot.

All that recently erected Public House known as the NEW INN, comprising Tap Room, Bar, Kitchen, three Sleeping Rooms and two Cellars, together with the Brewhouse, Malt Room over, Piggeries, hard Water Pump, enclosed Yard, and other appurtenances thereto, situate in and fronting to Spring Vale Street, Spring Bank, Little London, Willenhall, and now occupied by Mr. *Francis Evans*, at an annual rental of £16.

And also all those five newly erected Messuages or Dwelling Houses, with the Washhouses, Workshop, Privies, Soft Water Pump, Cistern, and enclosed Yards thereto, adjoining the NEW INN, and fronting Spring Vale Street aforesaid, and now in the occupations of Enoch Evans, Caleb Butler, James Aston, Edward Gell, and Francis Onions, at weekly rentals amounting to £35 10s per annum.

The above property is situate near to and adjoining the large iron works of Messrs. Deakin and Dodd, and offers a good opportunity for a profitable investment to small capitalists.

For further particulars apply to Mr. John Riley, Solicitor, Queen Street, or the Auctioneers, Darlington Street, all of Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/12/1868

“On Monday, at the Police Court, *Francis Evans*, landlord of the NEW INN beerhouse, Willenhall, was summoned by Police-inspector Gasson for keeping his house open for the sale of liquors at twenty minutes past eleven on the 22nd of November.

The defendant admitted the offence, but said it occurred purely through a mistake as to the time.

He was fined a shilling and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates' office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Francis Evans, NEW INN, Spring Bank, 1s and costs.”

1911 Census

Spring Vale Street – NEW INNS

[1] *George Reynolds* (31), gas fitting finisher and publican, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Mary Ann Reynolds* (31), wife, married 8 years, born Bloxwich;

[3] *Lucy Hodson* (16), niece, domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/2/1913

“Objections were raised to the renewal of several licences, and the magistrates ordered the following licences to be scheduled for compensation NEW INNS, Spring Vale Street, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1913 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. Notice of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, at 10-45 o'clock am on Thursday, the 24th day of July, 1913. And Notice Is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard.....

NEW INN, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *George Reynolds*.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/7/1913

“The Staffordshire Licensing Committee, at their meeting at Stafford yesterday, had thirty-eight cases to consider, the question being whether the licenses should be withdrawn and the houses extinguished under the compensation clauses of the Licensing Act.....

The licenses of the STORES, the NEW INN, and the CROSS INN, Willenhall, were referred. The only objection was against the non-renewal of the license of the CROSS INN, and the committee decided to renew the license, the others being refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/8/1913 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 24th day of July, 1913, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below, all Persons Claiming to be Interested in the said Premises for the purpose of the Payment of Compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 7th day of September, 1913, for the purpose of enabling the Compensation Authority to ascertain in manner provided by the Licensing Rules, 1910, the Persons entitled to Compensation under the said Act, in respect of the said Premises.....

NEW INN, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *George Reynolds*. Registered Owner, Showell and Sons Ltd.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1914

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee.....

At the principal meeting of the compensation authority the committee refused to renew 31 licenses. At the supplemental meeting the committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon were satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the Compensation Fund. In the following 27 cases the committee fixed the compensation.....

NEW INN, Willenhall, £850.”

NEW INN

Walsall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Ann Clark [1862]

NEW MALT SHOVEL

45, High Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Fellows [] – 1875);

William Wilkinson (1875 – []

James Gidwell [1881]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

London Gazette 11/6/1875

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Richard Fellows* of the NEW MALT SHOVEL INN, High-street, Portobello, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Charles Barrow, Solicitor, 48, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, on the 26th day of June, 1875, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

Dated this 9th day of June, 1875.

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

London Gazette 9/5/1876

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Richard Fellows*, of the NEW MALT SHOVEL INN, High-street, Portobello, in the county of Stafford.

The creditors of the above-named *Richard Fellows* who have not already proved their debts, are required, on or before the 17th day of May, 1876, to send their names and addresses, and the particulars of their debts or claims, to me, the undersigned, Theophilus Morrell, of Bilston, in the county of Stafford, Auctioneer, the Trustee under the liquidation, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of the Dividend proposed to be declared.

Dated this 6th day of May, 1876.

Theophilus Morrell, Trustee.”

Midland Examiner 10/7/1875

“Mr. Barrow applied for the temporary transfer of the license of the NEW MALT SHOVEL INN, Portobello, from *Richard Fellows* to *William Wilkinson*. Mr. Barrow said the out-going tenant was a liquidating debtor, and all the parties were satisfied with the in-coming tenant.

The application was granted.”

1881 Census

45, High Street, Portobello – NEW MALT SHOVEL

[1] *James Gidwell* (53), smith and beer seller, born Astley, Shropshire;

[2] *Elizabeth Gidwell* (42), wife, born Ironbridge, Shropshire;

[3] *James Gidwell* (22), son, smith, born Portobello;

[4] *Sarah Gidwell* (18), daughter, pupil teacher, born Portobello;

[5] *Elizabeth Gidwell* (13), daughter, scholar, born Portobello;

[6] *Benjamin M ____* (?) (19), boarder, coal merchant, born Bilston:

NOAHS ARK

15, Clarke's Lane, (Little London), (Little Island), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Charles Pritchard [1845]

John Grainger [1849] – [1850]

Thomas Grainger [1850] – 1852);

George Rose [1851]

John Case (1852 – 1853);

George Rose (1853 – []

Joseph Mason [] – 1858);

John Forrester (1858 – 1860);

John Yates (1860 – []

Joseph Haines [1861]
Thomas Siddens [] – 1861);
Fanny Forrester (1861 – [1865]
John Forrester [1868] – [1872]
James Turner [1873] – 1874);
Richard Dodd (1874 – []
William Devenport [1881]
Daniel Garbett (1886 – []
William Allen [1891] – [1892]
Joseph J Moseley [1896]
George Webster [1901] – [1904]
Joseph Warwick [1908]
Joseph Warrender [1911] – [1912]
Mrs. Ann Warrender [1916] – [1921]
Arthur Davies [1932] – [1940]
Ray Hackett [1986]
Tom Norton (1988 – []
Mike Bradley (2016 – [2017])

NOTES

Little London
Little Island [1850], [1860], [1868], [1872], [1874]
15, Clarkes Lane [1908], [1932], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Grainger = Thomas Granger

Staffordshire 14/6/1851

“On Wednesday last, at the Public Office four public-house keepers, viz., Stephen Oliver, Wolverhampton, *Thomas Grainger*, John Cotton, Portobello, and Isaiah Cartwright, Willenhall, were each convicted in the mitigated penalty of £50 for mixing grains of paradise in their brewings of ale. The defendants mostly pleaded ignorance of the fact, having entrusted the management to their servants. The Bench recommended the Board of Customs to further mitigate the penalties.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/4/1853

“On Monday the following licenses were transferred.....
John Case, NOAHS ARK, Willenhall, to *George Rose*, of Darlaston.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/4/1860

“At a special general session for the transfer of licenses held at the County Police Court, Bilston Street, last Monday, the following licenses were thus disposed of the NOAHS ARK, Willenhall, from *John Forrester* to *John Yates*, of Neenton, Salop.”

1861 Census

Clarkes Lane

- [1] *Joseph Haines* (39), retailer of beer, born Wednesfield;
- [2] *Maria Haines* (28), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Joseph Haines* (7), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *James Haines* (1), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Hannah Haines* (60), mother, widow, born Wednesfield;
- [6] *Jane Haines* (25), sister, born Wednesfield:

John Forrester = John Forester = John Forrister

John Forrester, beer retailer, Little Island. [1868], [1870]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/11/1868 - Deaths

“On the 23rd ultimo, aged 38 years, Ann, the beloved daughter of Mr. *John Forrister*, NOAHS ARK INN, Willenhall: deeply lamented.”

1871 Census

Clarks Lane – NOAHS ARK Public House

- [1] *John Forester* (67), farm labourer, born Market Drayton, Shropshire;

- [2] Leah Forester (61), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] Louisa Forester (9), granddaughter, scholar, born Lane Head;
[4] Eli Groves (10), grandson, scholar, born Little Island:

John Forrester – see also SPRING COTTAGE.

James Turner was also a shopkeeper. [1873]

Midland Counties Evening Express 17/11/1874

“Yesterday, T. M. Phillips Esq., County Coroner, held an inquest at the NOAHS ARK INN, Little Island, Willenhall, on the body of the two children, Thomas and Emily Boon, who were suffocated on the previous Friday by a fall of sand at a canal embankment, near the County Bridge, Walsall Road.

Ann Parker, who resides next door to the premises occupied by the deceased’s parents, said that, on Friday the mother of the children went out to work at a neighbouring wharf, and the children went out to play. They were in the habit of coming in and out of her house, as well as into those of the other neighbours, but at one o’clock it was observed that they had not been seen for some time, and the neighbours became alarmed for their safety. As the children were known to have been on previous occasions to the sand hole near the canal-side, the neighbours went to the sand hole, and they found that about a ton of sand had fallen, and the children, together with another one, were buried underneath. The children were dug out as quickly as possible, but Thomas and Emily were found dead. Their sister, Sarah, who had been buried with them, was still alive. Small quantities of sand had fallen on previous occasions, but the children had never before been hurt.

The Coroner expressed his surprise that the place had not been fenced round.

Mr. Blakemore – who was present at the inquest on behalf of the Bentley Colliery Company to whom the place belongs – informed Mr. Phillips that a fence had been erected, but it had been destroyed by the people living near. Orders had, however, been given for another fence to be erected. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Evening Express 17/1/1881

“W. H. Phillips, Esq, district coroner, held an inquest this afternoon, at the NOAHS ARK INN, Willenhall, touching the death of John Levin, a man 50 years of age, who has lately been an inmate of Walsall Workhouse.

On Friday afternoon the deceased absconded from the Walsall Workhouse, and at 6.30 on the following morning he was found in a dying condition in a field at the Bradford Colliery, at Bentley. He was removed to the NOAHS ARK INN, but had suffered so much from exposure that he died half an hour afterwards.

The inquest had not terminated at the time of writing.”

1881 Census

15, Clarke’s Lane – NOAHS ARK

- [1] *William Devenport* (31), carpenter and licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
[2] Alice Devenport (35), wife, born Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire;
[3] Elizabeth Devenport (11), daughter, scholar, born James Bridge;
[4] Lydia Bucknall (15), domestic servant, born Heath Town:

Evening Express 31/5/1881

“On Monday afternoon W. H. Phillips, Esq, (coroner) held an inquest at the NOAHS ARK INN, Clarkes Lane, near Bentley, on the body of Richard Harper (72), who was found injured at the bottom of a shaft in Messrs. Bagnall and Son’s Deepmore Colliery, and which injuries resulted in his death.

Mr. W. B. Scott, assistant inspector of mines, who was present, said he had examined the place where the deceased was found, and was unable to attach blame to anyone. Other witnesses spoke to finding the deceased injured at the bottom of the shaft, but how he met with the accident they were unable to say. His right arm was broken, and his head was badly crushed.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Evening Express 26/9/1881

“W. H. Phillips, Esq, district coroner, held an inquest on Saturday afternoon, at the NOAHS ARK INN, Clarkes Lane, Willenhall, on the body of William Chesney, aged fifty-eight years, a foreman in the employ of the Wolverhampton Waterworks Committee, and who was found drowned in the Birmingham Canal at Bentley, on Friday morning.

Mr. Lyons Wright, engineer to the committee, was present; and Mr. John Clark, solicitor, Willenhall, attended on behalf of the relatives of the deceased.

The deceased, who lived in Harper Street, Little London, was at the NEW INN, Willenhall, on Thursday night and being the worse for liquor left about eleven o’clock. *David Bickley*, the landlord, who had known him for about thirty years, accompanied him on his way home as far as the Wesleyan Chapel. He was not seen again until the next morning, when his body was found in a basin of the canal at Bentley, and appeared to have been in the water some time. A silver watch, which had stopped at twenty minutes past four o’clock, a silver chain, a two-shilling piece, and other articles, were found in his pockets, and there were no marks of injury upon him. The Wesleyan Chapel was stated to be two miles from the place where the body was found, and it would be the same distance from the canal basin, and in a different direction to his house. The deceased wore spectacles, and the evidence showed that the night was dark, and that the neighbourhood was not lighted by a furnace or in any other way. According to Ellen Chesney, a daughter of the deceased, he was not in the habit of going in the direction of Bentley, or of staying away from home at

night.

The Coroner said it appeared that the man had wandered out of his way, and a verdict was returned that he was Found Dead in the water.”

1891 Census

Clarks Lane – NOAHS ARK INN

- [1] *William Allen* (41), married, publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Elizabeth Allen (31), niece, barmaid, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Abraham Smith (27), nephew, sheet mill furnaceman, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Mary J. Allen (16), daughter, deaf 6 years, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Charles Allen (8), son, born West Bromwich:

1901 Census

15, Clarks Lane – NOAHS ARK

- [1] *George Webster* (30), brass caster and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Eliza A. Webster (38), wife, born Gornal;
- [3] Alfred G. Webster (7), son, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1907

“County Licensing Compensation Authority.

The principal meeting of the County Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1904, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford on Tuesday.....

In the Wolverhampton Division, the following houses were scheduled.....

MODEL TAVERN, Clarks Lane, Willenhall, beerhouse (ante-1869), Orson Madeley.....

In the case of the MODEL TAVERN, Mr. Graham Milward, barrister, applied for the renewal on behalf of the lessee and tenant. Superintendent Spendlove said this was a very old house, belonging to Mrs. Maria Mason, of Willenhall, and was tied to an Aston brewery. The net ratable value was £21 14s. The drinking accommodation was not bad, but the living accommodation was very bad. The NOAHS ARK was alone sufficient to supply the wants of the district. Inspector Beech, of Willenhall gave evidence as to redundancy. Mr. Frederick Smith, managing director of Messrs. F. Smith and Co., brewers, Aston, said his firm were the lessees of the house, and last year they did 185 barrels of ale and about 300 dozen bottled goods. A very steady trade was, in his opinion, done at the house. He was prepared to have any necessary structural alterations carried out within a month. Orson Madeley, the licensee, W. Hartshorn, and Edward Dunkley, customers, were called to prove that the licence was required. Mr. Milward urged that there was a genuine need for the retention of the house, and Mr. Willcock, on behalf of the owner, said she was an old lady entirely dependent upon the rent she received from these premises and the contributions of her son. The renewal of the licence was refused.”

1911 Census

15, Clarks Lane

- [1] *Joseph Warrender* (59), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ann Warrender (53), wife, married 33 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] John Warrender (30), son, brass caster, born Willenhall;
- [4] Annie Ledsam (28), daughter, married 3 years, born Willenhall;
- [5] William Frederick Ledsam (27), son in law, founder's mould box maker, born Willenhall;
- [6] Dora May Ledsam (5), granddaughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] Fred Ledsam (2), grandson, born Willenhall:

Joseph Warrender – see also HOLLY BUSH.

Tom Norton was married in Linda.

Express & Star 20/8/2017

“Two well-known pubs are celebrating after finishing as runners up in the *Express & Star's* Most Popular Pub of the Year contest in the Staffordshire and Walsall areas.....

In the Walsall area, Willenhall pub NOAHS ARK INN finished runner-up.

The family friendly pub is run by 22-year-old *Mike Bradley*, from Cannock, who has worked in the pub trade since leaving school at 16. He said: ‘We keep it simple, happy staff equals happy customers, we keep the food and beer cheap, so people leave happy, full and with money left in their pocket. Variety is important too, rather than just having Carling on tap, we always have special ciders available, we always have four cask ales on tap and we sell a lot of Banks's bitter.’

The pub's house charity, chosen by customers, is the Midlands Air Ambulance which they regularly hold events for, alongside a weekly disco, a monthly live band and they've recently started a classic car show. Mr. *Bradley* added, ‘We've got two car parks, so as a bit of a car man myself, I thought we could try hosting a classic car show. We're now hosting them on the last Sunday of every month and they're going really well, I think people like that it's something different. We've had people come as far as Kent so far, we're getting a really big reach online because of it.’

The pub finished runner-up last year in last year's competition and is run by Mr. *Bradley* and his partner Cassie Ward, who have

been at the helm for the past 15 months.”

[2017]

OLD BUSH

Walsall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Lees [1828] – [1830]

OLD CROWN

Stafford Street, Little London, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Jobber [1835] – [1850]

Edwin Badger [1859] – [1865]

Philip Taylor [pre 1868]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

John Jobber = John Jobbers

John Jobber, retailer of beer, Stafford Street. [1835]

John Jobber, beer retailer, Stafford Street. [1841]

1841 Census

Stafford Street

[1] *John Jobbers* (55), publican and varnisher, born Staffordshire;

[2] Sampson Jobbers (20), shoemaker (?), born Staffordshire;

[3] Thomas Jobbers (15), joiner, born Staffordshire;

[4] Lucy Pritchard (13), born Staffordshire;

[5] John Mason (9), born Staffordshire;

[6] Fanny Pace (20), servant, born Staffordshire;

[7] Martha Taylor (5), born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/9/1841

“George Brindley was charged with feloniously cutting and maiming John Squire, at Willenhall.

The prosecutor stated that he was a lock maker, and lived at the New Invention. On the night of Monday, the 13th instant, he went to a beer shop in Willenhall, kept by *John Jobber*. About eleven o’clock a man named Joseph Edmonds came in, and challenged to fight any man in the place, under eight score. He was told to go away, and went, but returned, and, using some blackguard expressions, said he would fight the prosecutor, who refused to do so. He struck the prosecutor, across the table, on the eye; they then fought the better part of half an hour. Edmonds then said he would not fight any more. Brindley urged him to fight another round, and he did so. As the prosecutor was going down he felt something sharp in his side. Enoch Whitehouse tried to pick him up, and he said he was stuck. The wound was in his right side, and about five inches long. He had not been able to work since. Enoch Whitehouse stated that he was in the room when the prosecutor was cut. In the last round he saw Brindley come up and

strike Squire several times. Witness told him to stand off, and let them have fair play; but he came up and struck Squire twice on the right side as he was falling. Squire said he was cut, and witness looked at the hands of Edmonds and of Brindley, but saw nothing in them. Witness said to Brindley, 'It's thee that hast done it, and no other man; and I durst venture to swear it.' He replied, 'Enoch, I should like to shoot thee; I'd cut thy heart out if I could.' The witness said there were many people in the room, but nobody was near the fighters except himself and Brindley. Somebody proposed to have the company searched for the knife, and the door was shut, but it was burst open from the outside, and no search was made.

John Davis stated that he was at *Jobber's* house at the time. Brindley did not interfere in the fight till the last round; then witness saw him acting as second. Nobody else was near the prosecutor in that round but Whitehouse and Brindley.

The prisoner, who was admitted to bail, was ordered to take his trial at the assizes."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/3/1842

"Grand Jury Room, before Mr. Sergeant Ludlow.

George Brindley, a respectable-looking man, was indicted for wounding John Squire, with a knife, on the Monday night following a wake, in a beer-house, at Willenhall.

Mr. Meteyard appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Huddleston made an able defence for the prisoner.

Verdict, not guilty."

John Jobber was also a varnish maker. [1845], [1849], [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

"The annual meeting for the renewal of Victuallers' licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for licenses, for the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. Thurstans then made an application on behalf of Mr. Thomas Jones, the occupier of the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, situate on the road between Willenhall and Little London, for a license for the above house. A petition, numerously signed, was presented in favour of the applicant. There was another application for a license in the same locality, the applicant being Mr. *Badger*, of the CROWN public house. Mr. Hayes supported the application. Both applications were refused."

1861 Census

Stafford Street

[1] *Edwin Badger* (34), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] Ann Badger (32), wife, born Staffordshire;

[3] Betsy Francis (14), general servant, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

"There were eight applications for new licenses. Mr. Hayes said he had to renew an application he made last year for a license to the OLD CROWN, situated on the main road, leading from Willenhall to Little London, and from Wednesfield to Wolverhampton. Thirty years ago there was a victualling license attached to the house but it been allowed to lapse.

Mr. Hill: What difference is there between the present application and that of last year?

Mr. Hayes said, Willenhall was increasing in extent and population and there were less applications from it for licenses this year than at the last meeting. The application was unopposed, and he thought the magistrates, considering that the house had been once licensed, that it possessed every necessary convenience, and that it was surrounded with buildings, would be inclined to entertain it.

Mr. Thurstans applied for a license to the DOG AND PARTRIDGE, situated in the same locality, and kept by Mr. Thomas Jones. As it could hardly be expected that the magistrates would grant two licenses in the neighbourhood, his application constituted an opposition to that of Mr. Hayes, and he contended that Mr. Jones's house was more eligibly situated for a license than that of Mr. *Badger*, inasmuch as it stood nearer to Messrs. Fletcher and Solly's colliery, and further from a public house than that of Mr. Hayes's client, and was on the main road,

Mr. H. Underhill opposed the latter application, observing that a similar one was made last year and refused, and since no alterations had taken place in the circumstances of the case. There were already two licensed houses within a short distance of *Badger's* and Jones's houses.

The Bench refused both applications, on the ground that the state of circumstances had not altered since last year....."

Edwin Badger, retailer of beer, Stafford Street. [1862], [1865]

London Gazette 13/11/1868

"*Philip Taylor*, late of the OLD CROWN INN, Stafford-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper and Journeyman Locksmith, since and now of the SWAN INN, Monmore-lane, Willenhall aforesaid, Beerhouse Keeper and Journeyman Locksmith, adjudicated bankrupt on the 29th day of September, 1868. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, on the 3rd day of November, 1868."

OLD CROWN

29, Union Street, New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Charles Collett [1876] – [1881]
Thomas Hughes (1882 – [1884]
Eliza Williams [1891]
Silvester Phillips [1892]
William Taylor [1896] – [1904]
George James [1908]
Joseph William Whitehouse [1911] – [1916]
Samuel Birch [1925] – [1928]
Mrs. Claribel Gold [1932]
Herbert 'Bert' Dallow [1940] – [1944]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/4/1876

"Charles Collett, beerhouse keeper, Union Street, was ordered to pay the mitigated penalty of 25s for having kept a dog without having a license."

1881 Census

29, Union Street

- [1] Charles Collett (29), iron rim lock maker and licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sarah Collett (27), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Charles Collett (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Annie Causer (29), visitor, born Bilston;
- [5] Ciller Causer (10), general servant, born Willenhall:

Evening Express 7/12/1881 - Advert

"Free Beerhouse to Let; capital brewing plant; now steady trade; changed hands once in ten years.
Apply, OLD CROWN, Union Street, Willenhall."

Birmingham Daily Post 21/10/1884

"Thomas Hughes (35), locksmith, in the employ of Messrs. T. and H. Vaughan, and keeper of the OLD CROWN, beerhouse, Union Street, Willenhall, is in custody charged with inflicting grievous bodily harm upon his wife Emily (34) on September 17, and who died on Saturday. On Wake Wednesday (September 17), there was a pigeon flying match in the locality of the prisoner's house, and as one of the 'fancy' of the district he took a prominent part in it. He lost several 'sweeps,' amounting to between £4 and £5, and it is alleged that in the evening a quarrel occurred between himself and his wife in consequence of her being unable to find money to pay his bets. It is said blows were passed, and that in running away to escape further blows deceased fell over a coal-hod in the backyard, breaking her right ankle. Her husband was afterwards seen to beat her, and from the date of the occurrence until Saturday she kept her bed. On Saturday afternoon she died, and the surgeon refused a certificate. Information was conveyed to the police at night, and deceased's husband was arrested by Sergeant Upton in a warrant charging him with inflicting grievous bodily harm upon his wife.

Yesterday prisoner was brought up at the Police Court before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and Mr. Josiah Tildesley, charged with unlawfully wounding.

Chief Superintendent Cook prosecuted, Mr. John Riley, solicitor, Wolverhampton, watched the case on behalf of deceased's friends, and Mr. John Clark defended.

Humphrey Fox, latch manufacturer, John Street, Willenhall, said on September 17, about half-past seven in the evening, he saw deceased leaning against the back doorpost of her house. She was crying, and prisoner was present. She said to him 'Pull my shoe off,' and prisoner pulled off her right boot, an act which evidently gave her much pain. Prisoner asked her to go into the brewhouse. Deceased replied that she could not walk, as her foot was much hurt. Prisoner then caught hold of her and pulled her in, and witness helped him. She was put on a sofa, and as she lay there prisoner struck her in the face three or four times with his fist, and then struck her twice more on the side of the face and neck with the boot which he had taken off her foot. Witness remarked 'Tom, I didn't think you could do that; don't do that, Tom.' Prisoner made no reply, but upon witness repeating his remark, Hughes said, 'he had cause to' since 'she had too much beer;' and witness responded that he did not believe it. When prisoner had beaten her with the shoe, he said to her, 'Have you had enough now, you ——.'

Deceased was crying, and was unable to reply. Prisoner was very excited and passionate at the time. A neighbour named Mrs. Pinson, now came in, and Mrs. *Hughes* said to her, 'Pull my stocking off.' This Mrs. Pinson did, and exposed the foot, which was hanging on one side from the ankle. It was swollen. He felt the foot, and saw that it was out, as though some of the bones were out of place. Mrs. Pinson said, 'The ankles broken;' and Mrs. *Hughes* said, 'It's only sprained.' The sufferer remarked to witness that there had been a pigeon match, and that her husband had lost £4, and that 'he must not expect to have it out of her.' The next day he saw Mrs. *Hughes* in bed, and her face was a 'regular black,' both her eyes were blackened, and one side of her neck was black. He had seen her frequently since. She kept to her bed up till Saturday last, when she died, and her face was still scarred. In reply to the Bench, witness said neither the deceased nor prisoner appeared to be drunk. He was related to deceased. He did not see the beginning of the quarrel.

The Bench intimated that this was sufficient for a remand.

Mr. Clark said there was nothing in the evidence before the court to justify the assumption that prisoner caused deceased's death, and he applied for bail.

Mr. Riley strongly opposed the application, and the Bench remanded the prisoner in custody for a week.

The inquest on the body was opened later in the day – before Mr. W. H. Phillips, district coroner – at the ALBION INN, Union Street.

Mrs. Ann Kershaw, Union Street, wife of a currycomb-maker deposed that she was with the deceased when she died on Saturday, at two o'clock. She had nursed her for three weeks. Her ankle had bled very much, especially as they were getting her upstairs after the accident. Witness saw her fall over the coal-hod, and she was unable to rise. Her husband picked her up and carried her into the brewhouse, and put her on the sofa. The night was dark. She did not see Mrs. *Hughes* again until nine o'clock at night. She did not like to go into the brewhouse before, not liking to interfere between man and wife, and also because he might have 'given her one.' The husband locked the brewhouse door to prevent anyone going in. At nine o'clock she found that deceased's ankle was broken, and after tying it up she insisted upon a surgeon being sent for. Deceased also had two black eyes and bruises on her face.

By Mr. Riley: During her illness deceased has said on several occasions, when her husband had been present, the 'he had been the cause of it;' 'it was his fault.' She said last Saturday night week; 'I am a poor murdered woman, and you are the murderer. It is your violent temper.' Mr. *Hughes* did not reply. Deceased's mother was present.

Mrs. Elizabeth Pinson, Union Street, deposed that at eight o'clock on the evening of September 17 she visited the OLD CROWN beerhouse for some ale, and at the request of a daughter of the deceased she went to her and found her lying in the brewhouse. Witness removed the stocking from her right foot, and found the ankle was broken, but the bone did not protrude. Deceased said her ankle was only sprained. In trying to get upstairs the deceased fell twice. The second time she fell with her leg under her, and the bone broke through the skin, and the wound bled a great deal. Mr. Martin, assistant to Mr. J. T. Hartill, surgeon, attended shortly after, and bound up the ankle. A week after it bled very much again.

Cross-examined: She thought that the husband of deceased had done all he could for her during her illness. A week before her death he summoned Mr. Jackson, surgeon, Wolverhampton, to attend her.

Sarah *Hughes*, aged 14, daughter of the deceased, deposed that about half-past seven on the evening of the occurrence, deceased left the bar for the brewhouse, and her father soon followed her. In about ten minutes Humphrey Fox, cousin of witness told her that her mother had had a fall, and she then went and found her lying in the yard, having fallen over a coal-hod. She did not hear her mother blame her father at all. She knew of no quarrel or words between her father and mother on September 17.

The Coroner remarked to Mr. Clark during the examination of this witness that he did not think that it would have much altered the complexion of the case if deceased had fallen even half a dozen times after her first fall, if the cause of those several falls was the injury received in the first fall.

Humphrey Fox repeated the evidence which he had given before the magistrates.

The Coroner intimated to the jury that it would be for them to consider whether deceased's death was brought about by the actual violence, or was the result of an accident. He would adjourn the inquest for a post mortem examination, he should also like the police at the adjournment to produce evidence from someone or other who was in the beerhouse at the time the deceased went into the yard followed by her husband.

The enquiry was then adjourned until Thursday."

Birmingham Daily Post 24/10/1884

"Yesterday Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) resumed, at the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall, the enquiry into the death of Emily *Hughes* (34), wife of *Thomas Hughes* (35), locksmith, and keeper of the OLD GREEN MAN beerhouse, in that town. It will be remembered that the deceased quarrelled with her husband on September 17, and he is alleged to have violently struck her, causing her death on the 18th inst. Mr. John Clarke represented the husband, Mr. Riley the mother of the deceased, and Inspector Cook the police authorities.

Sarah *Hughes*, daughter of the deceased, deposed that her mother told her she had fallen over a coalhod as she was coming into the house on September 17. When she removed her mother into the brewhouse, assisted by a man named Fox and her father, she observed that her mother's face was bruised. She did not know anything at all about her mother being struck or kicked.

Mrs. Alexander, of Noose Lane, was examined, but her evidence threw no light on the affair.

Sergeant Upton said he arrested *Hughes* on the 18th inst, at his home. After *Hughes* had heard the warrant read, he said, without being cautioned, 'Nothing of that. We had a couple of words. I gave her a smack in the face with my right hand. She fell down and sprained her ankle. I then helped to carry her into the brewhouse, and put her on the sofa. Mrs. Pinson came in for some beer, and helped my wife to go to bed. Mrs. Pinson fell down upon her, causing her leg to be broken.' When witness began to write down the statement, *Hughes* requested that Mrs. Pinson should be present.

Mrs. Ann Hershaw, Union Street, wife of a currycomb maker, now stated that she did not see the deceased fall. She was no rela-

tion of the deceased.

Mr. J. T. Hartill, surgeon, stated that he made a post-mortem examination on the 21st inst. There was a fracture of the principal bone of the right leg. A wound on the inner side of the leg communicated with it. The fracture was originally 3in long. The bones of the leg were broken, and a piece of one of them was chipped off. There were evidences of a healthy repair of the bone. Deceased had died from blood-poisoning, arising from an injured ankle. She was first seen by himself on September 18. Deceased was too fat to be considered healthy; nevertheless she was one of the finest women in Willenhall. He was quite clear that the blood-poisoning was due to the injured ankle. In reply to a jurymen, witness stated he was satisfied that the bruises on the face were not entirely the result of a fall, but had been caused by a series of blows.

In summing up, the Coroner pointed out that Mr. Hartill had distinctly attributed the woman's death to blood-poisoning due to the broken ankle. There was no proof to show that the husband had brought about the fall which had resulted in the injury, and therefore he could not direct them to return a verdict of manslaughter. In fact, it appeared that the woman had fallen over a coalhod. If, however, the jury believed that the husband had contributed to the fall, the verdict would assuredly be manslaughter.

After a deliberation occupying forty minutes, the jury returned the following verdict: 'That the deceased died from blood-poisoning, arising from a fractured ankle; that such was caused on September 17 by her having a fall, but how and under what circumstances there was no evidence to show.' They also expressed a hope that the man might be prosecuted for an assault upon the deceased after she had been injured.

The Coroner remarked that there had been ample time for the deceased to have made a declaration.

Mr. Riley said that he attended the deceased for that purpose, but noting on the advice of Mr. Hartill, that such a course would probably end fatally, it had been deferred.

The Coroner said the evidence showed that the conduct of the husband had been very blackguardly.

The enquiry then ended.

Hughes, who is at present in Stafford gaol, charged with unlawfully wounding his wife, will be brought again before the Willenhall magistrates on Monday."

[On 31st October *Thomas Hughes* was committed to the Staffordshire Sessions, and refused an application for bail.]

Birmingham Daily Post 4/11/1884

"Staffordshire Adjourned Quarter Sessions *Thomas Hughes* (35), locksmith, was acquitted on a charge of inflicting grievous bodily harm on *Emily Hughes*, his wife, on the 17th October, at Willenhall."

1891 Census

29, Union Street

- [1] Humphrey Williams (37), soda water bottler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Eliza Williams* (36), wife, publican, born Willenhall;
- [3] Lydia E. Williams (14), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Louisa Williams (11), daughter, scholar, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1896

"*William Taylor*, of the CROWN INN, Union Street, Willenhall, was charged with permitting gambling on his licensed premises. A policeman in plain clothes found some men gambling for beer in the defendant's house. A fine of 20s and costs was imposed."

1901 Census

29, Union Street

- [1] *William Taylor* (35), iron caster, born Willenhall;
- [2] Mary Ann Taylor (33), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Thomas Taylor (32), brother, iron caster, born Willenhall;
- [4] Emily Taylor (33), wife, born Willenhall;
- [5] Thomas Taylor (10), son, schoolboy, born Willenhall;
- [6] Shadrach Taylor (6), son, schoolboy, born Willenhall;
- [7] Emily Taylor (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] Fanny Taylor (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] Florence Nicklin (24), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

29, Union Street

- [1] *Joseph William Whitehouse* (41), beer retailer, born Dudley;
- [2] Jane Whitehouse (41), wife, married 16 years, born Walsall;
- [3] Arthur Leonard Whitehouse (15), son, apprentice to pattern making, born Walsall;
- [4] Harry Frederick Whitehouse (4), son, born Walsall;
- [5] Alice Bird Whitehouse (1), daughter, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/8/1925

"A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 13th inst, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Birch*, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention. There was a large attendance. Mr. P. B. Cooke (president) occupied the chair....."

[Staffordshire Advertiser 18/8/1928](#)

“A meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Friendly and Protection Society was held on the 9th inst, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Birch*, OLD CROWN INN, New Invention. Mr. P. B. Cooke (president) occupied the chair.....”

Mrs. *Claribel Gold*, beer retailer, 29, Union Street. [1932]

[Walsall Observer 18/3/1944](#)

“The monthly meeting of the Walsall and District Licensed Victuallers’ Society was held at the CRITERION HOTEL, Stafford Street, Walsall. Mr. C. W. Garfield (president) occupied the chair, and Mr. T. Hawkins (vice-president) the vice-chair. The President made sympathetic reference to the sudden death of the Magistrates’ Clerk (Mr. S. E. Loxton), and as a mark of respect the members stood for a short time in silence. Sympathy was also expressed with Mr. James Bird and his wife and Mrs. Garfield in their illnesses. Mr. George Peach, KINGS HEAD, Stafford Street, Willenhall, and Mr. Sidney Wood, of the NEW INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, were elected members of the committee. Mr. *Herbert Dallow*, of the OLD CROWN INN, Willenhall, was elected a member of the society. A message was read from Mr. M. F. Harrison, secretary, expressing his thanks and greetings for the kind wishes extended to him on the occasion of his 85th birthday. The arrangements made for the forthcoming charity ball on Friday May 19, were reported. The society is arranging to co-operate with the appeal of the Mayor in aid of the Red Cross and St. John Staffordshire appeal, and a box collection will shortly be made. The next meeting will be at the TIGER INN, Walstead Road, on April 13.”

Closed

OLD HOUSE AT HOME

Lucknow Road, ([Bloxwich Road](#)), Ashmore Lake, (Lane Head), Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

[William Wellings](#) [1879] – [1885]
Charles George Worth [1891] – [1900]
John Worth [1901]
William Worth [1904]
Thomas Clift [1908]
William Clift [1908] – [1914]
William Mansfield [1916] – [1921]
William Jackson [1932]
William Arthur Cox [c.1938]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

[Wolverhampton Express and Star 28/8/1879](#)

“The general licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton division of the hundred of Seisdon North was held this morning.... Mr. R. A. Willcock applied on behalf of *William Wellings*, OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Bloxwich Road, Ashmore Lake, Short Heath, for a spirit license. The house, he said, was eminently adapted for the purposes of a full-licensed house, the man who applied was of good character, and the premises were in the midst of a tolerably numerous population, who were at present 800 or 900 yards from the nearest public house. A memorial of the residents was presented in favour of the application. The applicant himself was sworn as to these facts, and Mr. T. J. Barnett, the valuer to the justices, said the yearly value of the house was £20. No opposition was offered. Granted.”

1881 Census

Ashmore Lake

- [1] *William Wellings* (33), licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] *Eliza Wellings* (33), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Ellen E. Wellings* (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *John Millington* (22), visitor, bricklayer’s labourer, born Moseley Hole:

Darlaston Weekly Times 17/1/1885

“*William Wellings*, landlord of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Ashmore Lake, was fined 20s and costs, for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises.”

1891 Census

Ashmore Lake – OLD HOUSE AT HOME INN

- [1] *Charles G. Worth* (37), licensed victualler, born Wednesbury;
- [2] Jane Worth (35), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Phebe Beard (59), wife’s mother, widow, living on her own means, born Wednesbury;
- [4] James Beard (23), brother in law, ____ clerk, born Wednesbury;
- [5] Alethea Squires (14), domestic servant, born Short Heath:

1901 Census

Ashmore Lake – OLD HOUSE AT HOME INN

- [1] *John Worth* (55), innkeeper, born Lichfield;
- [2] Eliza Worth (53), wife, born Kings Hill, Staffordshire;
- [3] Arthur Worth (18), son, born Codnor Park, Derbyshire:

Walsall Advertiser 6/3/1909

“At Willenhall Police Court on Monday, James Henry Dunning (25), Ashmore Lake, Short Heath, was charged on remand with inflicting grievous bodily harm upon Frederick Pritchard, miner, Sneyd Lane, New Invention.

Mr. R. Tildesley, who prosecuted, said there were circumstances in the case which would perhaps justify the magistrates to reducing the charge to one of assault. This was a course the prosecutor also desired. The parties had previously been friends, but on the night of Saturday, the 20th ult, they were in a public house and had a quarrel about a football match. The defendant went towards the prosecutor, and aimed a blow at him, which, however, failed to hit him, and Pritchard then gave Dunning a blow on the eye which blackened it and slightly cut it. There was a sort of interval and patched-up reconciliation, but subsequently the defendant struck Pritchard on the head with a beer jug, and inflicted a wound. The prosecutor had been out of work for a week, but in order that he should not be at any loss the defendant had paid him 30s.

The prosecutor stated that they were in the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Ashmore Lake. Defendant and he had a quarrel, during which he struck the former in the eye. Five minutes elapsed, and, desiring to make it up, witness asked Dunning to drink out of his jug, and handed it to him for that purpose. The latter took hold of it, but at once struck him on the head.

The magistrates reduced the charge to one of assault, and imposed a fine of 10s and 23s 6d costs.”

1911 Census

Ashmore Lake – OLD HOUSE AT HOME

- [1] *William Clift* (35), publican, (beerhouse), born Lane Head;
- [2] Jane Clift (30), wife, married 7 years, assistant in beer business, born Madeley, Shropshire;
- [3] Joseph Clift (72), father, widower, old age pensioner, born Lane Head;
- [4] William Clift (6), son, school, born Lane Head;
- [5] Una Clift (3), daughter, born Lane Head;
- [6] Nora Clift (1), daughter, born Lane Head:

Walsall Observer 31/10/1914

“At Willenhall Police Court on Monday, Thomas Knowles (42), miner, of Lucknow, Short Heath, was charged with being quarrelsome on the premises of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Lucknow, Short Heath, on July 20th last, and with refusing to quit the premises. He was also charged with assaulting Joseph Cliff, father of the licensee of the house.

It was shown that after refusing to quit the premises, Knowles struck the old man on the jaw, knocking him across a table.

For refusing to quit, defendant was fined 5s and costs, and for the assault 10s and costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1937

“Twelve applications for the confirmation of licence removals remained to be heard by the Staffordshire Licensing Confirmation Committee when they resumed their sitting at Stafford on Tuesday. Sir William Goodwin (chairman) presided.....

The justices approved six removals in the Willenhall Division. In several cases it was stated that the licence would be transferred from old houses in congested areas to modern premises in newly developed districts. In consideration the brewery companies would surrender other licences. The removals were as follows.....

Removal of full licence of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Lucknow Road, Short Heath, to premises to be erected in Lucknow Road.”

Closed

OLD OAK

150, (33), Walsall Road / Acorn Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Daniel Baker [1881] – **1883**);
John Walker (**1883** – []
Thomas Allen [1891]
Sampson Wakelam [1901] – [1915]
Henry Mills [1932]
Mrs. Selina Lane [1930s] – [1940]

NOTES

33, Walsall Road [1881], [1901]
150, Walsall Road [1911], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Post 9/4/1877 - Advert

“First-Rate Turnout.

Brown horse Pony, 6 yrs, 13 hands, splendid goer, sound and quiet; splendid Dog Trap and set of silver-mounted Harness, equal to new. For sale cheap. Illness sole cause of parting.
Apply, OLD OAK, Walsall Road, Willenhall.”

1881 Census

33, Walsall Road – OLD OAK INN

[1] *Daniel Baker* (44), locksmith, born Willenhall;
[2] *Fanny Baker* (44), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] *Arthur Baker* (21), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;
[4] *William H. Baker* (17), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;
[5] *Jabez Baker* (15), son, keysmith, born Willenhall;
[6] *Annie Baker* (13), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
[7] *Albert Baker* (11), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
[8] *George Baker* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall:
[The family were in Peel Street in 1871.]

1891 Census

Walsall Road – OLD OAK INN

[1] *Thomas Allen* (29), butcher and publican, born Willenhall;
[2] *Nancy Allen* (25), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] *Gertrude Allen* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
[4] *Louisa Barber* (21), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
[5] *Harriet Symmonds* (34), visitor, born Brownhills;
[6] *Rewlin Symmonds* (4), visitor, born Brownhills:

1901 Census

33, Walsall Road – OLD OAK INN

[1] *Sampson Wakelam* (43), ? and builder, born Willenhall;
[2] *Emma Wakelam* (45), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] *Lottie Phillips* (22), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Sampson Wakelam – see also BELL.

Sampson Wakelam, beer retailer, 33, Walsall Street. [1904]

1911 Census

150, Walsall Road

[1] *Sampson Wakelam* (53), licensed beer retailer and builder, born Willenhall;

[2] Emma Wakelam (59), wife, married 18 years, assisting in the business, born Willenhall;

[3] Alice Mary Phillips (24), general servant, born Willenhall;

[4] Mary Jane Tarbuck (33), general servant, born Willenhall:

Sampson Wakelam, beer retailer, 150, Walsall Road. [1912]

Walsall Observer 6/3/1915

“At the Police Court, on Monday, before Messrs. T. Vaughan and E. Tonks, *Sampson Wakelam*, licensee of the OLD OAK INN, Walsall Road, was summoned for not keeping a dog under control.

A constable saw an Airedale dog belonging to defendant bite a boy on the thigh. A number of children complained that the dog had previously attacked them.

Defendant was ordered to pay the costs.”

Sampson Wakelam died in the 3rd quarter of 1916, aged 58,

It had a bowling green. [c.1910]

It had a brewery. [1920]

Henry Mills, beer retailer, 150, Walsall Road. [1932]

Selina Lane = Selma Lane

[2016]

PARK

Walsall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1908]

PLOUGH

85, (86), (30), Stafford Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Atkinsons Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Marston [1818]

Henry Morgan [1822] – **1855**;

William Morgan (**1855** – [1862])

Mrs. Helen Horton [1861] – [1874]

John Horton [] – **1873**;

Jesse Banks (1873 – 1874)
Ann Tildesley [] – 1879);
Samuel Kershaw (1879 – 1881);
Mrs. Mary (Kershaw) Atkins (1881);
Samuel Atkins (1881 – []
Thomas Shepherd [1891] – [1892]
R Bennion [1896]
Cornelius Southan [1901]
Harry D’Egville [1904] – [1912]
Mrs. Alice M (Watkins) Elwell [1921] – [1932]
Samuel Thomas Watkins [1939] – [1944]
Harry Spittle [1978]

NOTES

30, Stafford Street [1871]
85, Stafford Street [1881], [1891], [1908], [1932], [1940]
86, Stafford Street [1939]

OLD PLOUGH [1911]

Edward Marston was also a whitesmith. [1818]

Henry Morgan was also a key stamper. [1833]

Helen Morgan (20), married *George Horton* (21), bachelor, on 22nd September 1835 at Walsall.

1841 Census

Stafford Street

- [1] *Henry Morgan* (55), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Morgan* (55), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Ellen Horton* (25), born Staffordshire:

1851 Census

Stafford Street

- [1] *Henry Morgan* (67), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Morgan* (66), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Hellen Horton* (36), daughter, married, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Hellen Horton* (14), granddaughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Emma Pedley* (16), servant, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1854

“George Williams, a dissipated looking man, was on Thursday examined before R. D. Gough, Esq., on the charge of stealing a silver watch from the person of his brother, a miner, living at Wolverhampton. The prosecutor stated that on the previous Monday he attended his club feat at the house of Mr. Fisher, the BIRD IN HAND, Portobello. He left that house about four o’clock, and went to the PLOUGH, at Willenhall, where he met the prisoner. He continued drinking there until about ten o’clock at night, and being rather overcome with liquor, fell asleep on the screen. When he awoke he proceeded to Portobello, and there missed his watch. On the following morning he returned to Willenhall to inquire after it. From information received he went to Mr. Saunders, the parish constable, who accompanied him to the PLOUGH, and apprehended the accused. He subsequently saw the watch in the possession of the constable. William Saunders, the constable referred to, proved apprehending the prisoner, who admitted taking the watch, but said he did not mean to keep it. He (the accused) added, ‘I got among some Willenhall chaps, and you know what they are.’ The watch was eventually traced to the possession of a man named Walter Summerfield, to whom the accused had sold it for £1 0s 6d. The prisoner was committed for trial.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/2/1855 - Deaths

“February 12, Mr. *Henry Morgan*, of the PLOUGH INN, Willenhall, aged 71 years.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/4/1855

“At the County Petty Sessions held in this town, on Monday last, the following licenses were transferred....
PLOUGH INN, Willenhall, kept by the late *George Morgan*, to his son and executor, *William Morgan*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/7/1858

“On Monday and yesterday (Tuesday), the members of the following societies partook of their annual feasts at the inns at Wil-

lenhall or Portobello, where they respectively hold their meetings, namely the Independent Order of Oddfellows, at the PLOUGH INN.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/2/1861

“Willenhall Relief Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

Mrs. *H. Horton* (PLOUGH INN) 5s 6d.....

Total £137 14s 6d.

Further subscriptions are earnestly requested, as the distress is still great, in consequence of the very depressed state of the staple trade of the town.”

1861 Census

Stafford Street

[1] *Helen Horton* (43), married, publican, born Willenhall;

[2] Ann Carter (20), niece, born Willenhall;

[3] Jane Palmer (20), house servant, born Willenhall:

1871 Census

30, Stafford Street

[1] *Helen Horton* (55), widow, licensed victualler PLOUGH, born Willenhall;

[2] John Hughes (37), son in law, born Willenhall;

[3] Helen Hughes (34), daughter, born Birmingham;

[4] Helen Booker (6), relative, born Willenhall;

[5] Ann Taylor (21), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Jesse Banks died in 1874.

Jesse Banks – see also CLEMSON ARMS.

1881 Census

85, Stafford Street – Public

[1] *Mary Kershaw* (39), widow, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] Annie Kershaw (15), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[3] Sarah Kershaw (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[4] William T. Kershaw (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] William Fox (65), widower, father, latchmaker, born Willenhall:

Mary Kershaw married *Samuel Atkins* in the 4th quarter of 1881.

Samuel Atkins was also a padlock maker. [1881]

1891 Census

85, Stafford Street – PLOUGH INN

[1] *Thomas Shepherd* (32), padlock maker, born Willenhall;

[2] Mary J. Shepherd (30), wife, born Hagley, Worcestershire;

[3] Alfred Shepherd (7), son, born Willenhall;

[4] William Shepherd (3), son, born Willenhall;

[5] Gertie Shepherd (6 months), daughter, born Willenhall:

Thomas Shepherd – see also THREE FURNACES.

1901 Census

Stafford Street

[1] *Cornelius Southan* (43), licensed victualler, born Heath Town;

[2] Elizabeth Southan (37), wife, born Heath Town;

[3] Cornelius B. Southan (6), son, born Heath Town;

[4] John P. Southan (4), son, born Heath Town;

[5] Maria Bowker (22), general servant (domestic), born Heath Town:

Harry D’Egville = Harry D’Edville

1911 Census

85, Stafford Street

[1] *Harry D’Egville* (45), publican, born Walsall;

[2] Elizabeth D’Egville (43), wife, married 10 years, assisting in the business, born Walsall;

[3] Emma Hill (24), domestic servant, born Bentley:

Alice M. Watkins married Horace J. Elwell in the 3rd quarter of 1921.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 11/1/1930

“A collision in Wellington Road, on Christmas eve, led to proceedings being taken against *Samuel Thomas Watkins* (25), PLOUGH INN, Willenhall, on a charge of dangerous driving.

Mr. Ernest Brown (for the prosecution) said at about 4.30pm on December 24th a milk lorry was being driven out of the Crescent, to turn left and proceed to Wolverhampton. The lorry kept within the crown of the road when turning out of the Crescent. Two motor-cars were standing outside the house of Dr. Sullivan and Mr. Perks, in Wellington Road. The milk lorry had passed one car, when a motor-car driven by the defendant, coming from Wolverhampton, and occupying the centre of the road, with its off wheels just over the crown of the road, came up at a fast speed, and collided with the milk lorry, and then continued as far as the corner of Green Lanes nearest Bilston.

Defendant told the Bench that he veered to the centre of the road to get a good view of the cross-roads, and that he thought the collision was a pure accident, and that no one was to blame.

Mr. Norman Duffell (for defendant) submitted that his client was no more negligent than the driver of the milk lorry. Both were attempting to pass the stationary vehicles, and the collision occurred.

Defendant was found guilty, and the Bench imposed a fine of £3, with £2 12s 6d special costs.”

1939 Register

86, Stafford Street

[1] *Samuel T. Watkins*, date of birth 5/2/1904, public house manager, married;

[3] *Dorothy Jane (Watkins) Arkininstall*, dob 1/9/1906, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Birmingham Mail 25/2/1944

“What the prosecution described as wholesale thefts of beer were alleged at Birmingham Police Court today against five draymen employed by Atkinsons Brewery Ltd. Five licensees of Atkinsons’ houses and the wife of one of them were also summoned for receiving the beer.

Accused were all charged with stealing various quantities of beer. Summoned for receiving beer were George Evans, of the TURKS HEAD, West Bromwich; Arthur James Stringer, of the PLOUGH INN, Bilston; Sydney Buckle and Nellie Buckle, of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Tipton; Clement Euclid Walker, of the Star and Garter, Coventry; and *Samuel Thomas Watkins*, of the PLOUGH INN, Willenhall.

All pleaded guilty, and Mr. M. P. Pugh (prosecuting) said that altogether the brewery had lost beer to the value of some £1,500. ‘I am not suggesting,’ he added, ‘that these men have been responsible for the whole of this, but it is clear that these thefts have taken place to a great degree by these men, though it may be there are others who are also stealing from their employers.’

Mr. Pugh explained that in pre-war days the brewery had a very effective system of checking the stock of beer handed to draymen for delivery, but owing to the depletion of staff during wartime the system had not been so efficient, and the accused had taken advantage of the conditions. One of the accused’s statements said that extra barrels were rolled off the deck unchecked on to the lorry.

Generally speaking, the stolen barrels of beer, which normally were sold at well over £12, had been sold to the receivers for about £6 – a figure which would not even pay the tax on it.

Mr. John Leslie Kimberley, house manager at the brewery, said the tax on beer was about £8 per barrel, but the Government would not be the losers because they had the tax before the beer left the brewery.

On behalf of Buckle and his wife, Mr. Colin Coley said the beer was acquired, not so much to make a profit, as a means of keeping up the reputation of their house and satisfying the customers, who had been grumbling at that time about a shortage of beer.

.....Evans was sentenced to one month’s hard labour; Stringer, Mrs. Buckle, Wager and *Watkins* were each fined £50, and Buckle £20.”

[The draymen’s sentences ranged from £10 fine to seven months’ hard labour.]

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, North Division. [1946]

Birmingham Mail 11/5/1978 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1964. Notice of Principal Meeting. West Midlands Metropolitan County.

Notice is Hereby Given that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Council Chambers, Council House, Smethwick, Warley, on the 7th day of July, 1978, at 3pm.

And notice is hereby also given that the Compensation Authority will at the meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the renewal of the licenses of the several premises specified in the subjoined list, all those persons to whom, under the Licensing Act, 1964, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard; that is to say, the persons interested in any licensed premises in question and, unless it appears to the Compensation Authority unnecessary, any other persons appearing to them to be interested in the question of the renewal of the license of those premises (including the justices of the licensing district).

List of Licensed Premises.....

PLOUGH, Stafford Street, Willenhall. Intoxicating liquor of all descriptions. Licensee, *Harry Spittle*.”

Closed
It became the Restaurante Royale.

It became RAGGADY'S.

Closed
It was later the Market Shop.

POETS CORNER

51, Keats Road / Shelley Road, Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

A S Kang [2001] – [2002]
Riccardo Sterling [2012]

NOTES

[1960s]

[A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Sports-Inn Quiz. \[1978\]](#)

[Express & Star 14/6/2012](#)

“A popular pub in Willenhall has been given a facelift following a £90,000 investment. The bar has been extended and lounge refurbished at the POETS CORNER in Keats Road. New pumps have been added and the toilets revamped as part of the improvements carried out over the last six weeks. The Cross of St George has been painted on the side of the boozier which is looking to create restaurant facilities later in the year. The finishing touches are now being put to the pub, which employs five people. It has managed to remain open to punters throughout the project. Premises licence holder *Riccardo Sterling* said money has been raised to help cover the costs of the package of improvements.

The 47 year-old said: ‘We wanted to give it a makeover and give something back to the community. People can come in and relax in a nice clean environment.’

Mr Sterling added: ‘We managed to save a bit of money up for the work. The pub is a focal point of the community.’”

[Express & Star 30/6/2017](#)

“The POETS CORNER pub in Keats Lane, Short Heath, has had its licence suspended following a number of incidents which culminated in the stabbing on June 17. On that occasion police were sent to the pub in the early hours and found two men seriously injured – one had been stabbed and the other was treated for head injuries. Following this a licence review was held by Walsall Council’s licensing committee, which decided to suspend the sale of alcohol and entertainment with immediate effect for 28 days. Pc Lisa Fellows, the licensing officer for Walsall Police said, ‘This is an unusual step to take, but having assessed the seriousness of the incident we felt that there was a need to act quickly. Whilst we are always keen to work with licensed premises and offer support where appropriate, this matter warranted a more robust and faster intervention.’ The premises has the right to object to the findings of the licensing committee and will be able to make full representation at the formal review hearing that will take place within 28 days.”

[2017]

POOL HAYES

Pool Hayes Lane / Castle Drive, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Punch Taverns [2005]

LICENSEES

Ian J Saunders [2007]

NOTES

[1976]

[2016]

PRINCE CONSORT

Lichfield Road, (Bloxwich Road), New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Showells Brewery Co. Ltd. [1890]

LICENSEES

Joseph Whitehouse [1861]

[Richard Benton \[1868\] – 1875](#);

Thomas Hollins (1875 – [1876]

James Atkins [1879]

Joseph Whitehouse [1881]

John Whitehouse [1891]

Rowland Gettings [1907] – [1910]

NOTES

Bloxwich Road [1891]

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

New Invention – Public House

[1] *Joseph Whitehouse* (36), coal miner, born Lane Head;

[2] Ann Whitehouse (35), wife, born Lane Head;

[3] Mary A. Whitehouse (11), daughter, born Lane Head;

[4] Louisa Whitehouse (9), daughter, born Lane Head;

[5] *John Whitehouse* (8), son, born Lane Head;

[6] William Whitehouse (6), son, born Lane Head;

[7] Elizabeth Whitehouse (4), daughter, born Lane Head;

[8] Catherine Whitehouse (1), daughter, born Lane Head:

Joseph Whitehouse, beer retailer, New Invention. [1864], [1865], [1868]

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/8/1868 - Deaths](#)

“On the 1st instant, after a short illness, Ann, wife of *Richard Benton*, of the PRINCE CONSORT INN, New Invention, aged 42 years; deeply regretted.”

[Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/11/1870](#)

“Matchem’s dog Jack will run Beache’s Smut of Willenhall, the best of 21 courses at rabbits, for £5 a side. Money at the PRINCE CONSORT INN, New Invention, near Wolverhampton.”

[Midland Examiner 2/10/1875](#)

“The following licenses were permanently transferred.....

Beerhouse at New Invention, from executors of the late *R. Benton to Thomas Hollins.*”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/2/1876

“*Thomas Hollins*, PRINCE CONSORT INN, New Invention, Willenhall, was fined 20s and costs for riding on the London and North Western Railway from Wolverhampton to Willenhall without a ticket. The defendant was observed to alight at Willenhall on the wrong side of the train, and when asked for his ticket he said he had not got one, and tendered 3d for the fare.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 17/2/1879

“Transfer of Licenses.....

PRINCE CONSORT, beer and wine house, from *J. W. Stirk*, trustee of the estate and effects of *Thomas Hollins*, a bankrupt.”

London Gazette 9/11/1879

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *James Atkins*, of the PRINCE CONSORT INN, New Invention, near Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Beerhouse Keeper.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Joseph Edward Sheldon, 51, High-street, Wednesbury, in the county of Stafford, on the 16th day of October, 1879, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 1st day of October, 1879.

Joseph E. Sheldon, 51, High-street, Wednesbury, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

1881 Census

New Invention – PRINCE CONSORT

- [1] *Joseph Whitehouse* (55), coal miner, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ann Whitehouse (54), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] Louisa Whitehouse (29), daughter, born Wednesfield;
- [4] *John Whitehouse* (27), son, journeyman locksmith, born Wednesfield;
- [5] William Whitehouse (26), son, coal miner, born Wednesfield;
- [6] Joseph Whitehouse (15), son, scholar, born Wednesfield;
- [7] Samuel Whitehouse (13), son, keysmith, born Wednesfield:

Walsall Advertiser 6/9/1890

“Monday next, 15th Sept., at 2 o'clock, at the PRINCE CONSORT INN, New Invention, Willenhall.

Unreserved Clearance Sale of a capital Brewing Plant, including an equal to new 120-gallon Copper Boiler, 20 Casks and Tubs, and usual Brewing Effects, by order of Messrs. Showell & Sons, Limited.”

1891 Census

Bloxwich Road – PRINCE CONSORT

- [1] *John Whitehouse* (39), licensed victualler, born Wednesfield;
- [2] Theresa Whitehouse (37), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] Joseph William Whitehouse (8), son, scholar, born Wednesfield;
- [4] Thomas Whitehouse (6), son, scholar, born Wednesfield;
- [5] Eliza Ann Whitehouse (4), daughter, scholar, born Wednesfield;
- [6] Sarah Ann Whitehouse (27), domestic servant, born Wednesfield:

Rowland Gettings = Roland Gittins

Walsall Advertiser 6/7/1907

“*Rowland Gettings*, PRINCE CONSORT INN, New Invention, was charged with leaving a horse and cart in Goodall Street not under control.

Police-constable Smith spoke to defendant's pony and trap being left standing near the police office for half-an-hour on Saturday noon.

Defendant said he paid a boy to look after it whilst he had his lunch, and the boy had gone away. The pony was an old one, and would stop for hours.

Ordered to pay the costs, 4s.”

Walsall Advertiser 15/1/1910

“A charge of permitting drunkenness was preferred at Willenhall Police Court on Monday, against *Roland Gittins*, licensee of the PRINCE CONSORT INN, New Invention, and there was a further charge of allowing gaming to be carried on.

Mr. W. A. Foster prosecuted, and Mr. S. A. Newman (Walsall) was for the defence.

In opening the case, Mr. Foster said that on the 8th of December last a man named Haddock went into the house kept by the defendant about 8.30am, after having been at work all night, and remained there until noon. When he left he was in a mad state of drunkenness and went immediately to the PRINCE OF WALES INN, where he was refused drink, and he thereupon smashed windows, and the door. He afterwards walked into the canal, and was taken to a friend's house to change his clothes, but he behaved

so badly that he was eventually locked up. Haddock had since been before the court and charged with being drunk and disorderly. He was ordered to pay the costs. With regard to the gaming they would hear from the man Haddock that he and three other men played 'Up it' in the house for two hours for pints of ale. William Haddock, a miner, of 38, High Street, Moseley Village said three games of 'Up it' were played in the PRINCE CONSORT, and the losers paid for pints of ale. He had a great deal to drink in the house, and shared with the others, but could not remember how many pints they had. He did not remember leaving the house nor smashing the windows of the PRINCE OF WALES, nor even getting into the canal. He remembered nothing until he found himself at Willenhall Police Station.

Benjamin Shotton, a miner, of Mount Pleasant, New Invention, said when Haddock left the PRINCE CONSORT he was perfectly sober. He went in the direction of the PRINCE OF WALES, and he believed he was there about 1½ hours. While they were in the house kept by the defendant they played 'Up it' but only for pastime. They were served there with about six or seven pints each. Samuel Dean, of the Sandbeds, Willenhall, said that Haddock and himself had three pints of ale at the PRINCE OF WALES. They stayed there nearly two hours. John Nicholls, licensee of the PRINCE OF WALES, said Haddock was drunk when he entered his house and witness refused to supply him and also put him out. Haddock then broke the barroom window and a window in the door. Witness had issued a summons against him for the damage. The defence was a total denial of both charges.

After consultation, the Bench imposed a fine of £5 and costs, total £12 0s 11d, including solicitor's fee, upon the charge of permitting drunkenness, but dismissed the second charge with regard to the gaming. William Haddock, mentioned in the above case, was then summoned for doing wilful damage to the extent of 3s 6d at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, New Invention. Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was ordered to pay the costs, and also the amount of the damage."

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/8/1932

"A tragic story was related to Mr. J. F. Addison, the borough Coroner, at an inquest on Tuesday, on Bert William Deans (28), of the PRINCE CONSORT, New Invention, who was fatally injured on Sunday night on the Walsall Road, Great Wyrley. Deceased was returning home on his motor-cycle after placing flowers on his mother's grave at Hendesford Cemetery, when he came into collision with a pedestrian named Frank Lionel Wood, Great Wyrley, who sustained severe injuries, including a fractured pelvis, and was taken to Walsall General Hospital. The Coroner adjourned the inquest until Ford was well enough to give evidence."

[1953]

PRINCE OF WALES

75, Lichfield Road, (Bloxwich Road), Short Heath, New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Bloxwich Brewery Co. Ltd. [1922]

LICENSEES

Peter Shaw [1863] – [1871]

Joseph Birch [1881] – [1904]

John Nicholls Snr. (1904 – 1911)

James Bickley [1915] – [1922]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Post 25/8/1863

"*Peter Shaw*, of the PRINCE OF WALES INN, New Invention, for allowing drunkenness, fighting, and disorderly conduct in his house, on the 18th inst, was fined £5 and costs."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

"Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates' office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Peter Shaw, PRINCE OF WALES, Short Heath, 10s and costs."

1871 Census

38, New Invention

- [1] *Peter Shaw* (65), publican, born Derbyshire;
- [2] *Mary Shaw* (62), wife, born Derbyshire;
- [3] *Peter Shaw* (16), grandson, pad locksmith, born Cheshire;
- [4] *Hannah Fletcher* (15), general servant, born New Invention:

1881 Census

Bloxwich Road, Short Heath, New Invention – PRINCE OF WALES INN

- [1] *Joseph Birch* (44), engine man at colliery, born Walsall;
- [2] *Mary Ann Birch* (39), wife, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [3] *George H. Birch* (19), son, general servant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Alice E. Birch* (14), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] *Alfred E. Birch* (11), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Earnest Birch* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Samuel Birch* (6), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *William Till* (8), nephew, born Willenhall;
- [9] *William Clarke* (44), boarder, lockmaker, born Coventry;
- [10] *Charles Roberts* (37), boarder, farm labourer, born Huddles Foot, Staffordshire:

1891 Census

Wolverhampton Road, Short Heath

- [1] *Joseph Birch* (54), coal miner, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary Ann Birch* (49), wife, born Cannock;
- [3] *Alfred Eli Birch* (21), son, lock smith, born Bentley;
- [4] *Ernest Birch* (18), son, key smith, born Short Heath;
- [5] *Samuel Birch* (16), son, lock smith, born Short Heath;
- [6] *Richard Vickers* (81), relative, gentleman living on his means, born Shropshire;
- [7] *William Till* (17), boarder, coal miner, born Short Heath:

1901 Census

Bloxwich Road, New Invention – PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *Joseph Birch* (64), publican, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Mary A. Birch* (59), wife, born Wyrley, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Alfred E. Birch* (31), son, locksmith, born Bentley Hay, Staffordshire:

Joseph Birch, beer retailer, New Invention. [1904]

Walsall Advertiser 15/1/1910

“A charge of permitting drunkenness was preferred at Willenhall Police Court on Monday, against Roland Gittins, licensee of the PRINCE CONSORT INN, New Invention, and there was a further charge of allowing gaming to be carried on.

Mr. W. A. Foster prosecuted, and Mr. S. A. Newman (Walsall) was for the defence.

In opening the case, Mr. Foster said that on the 8th of December last a man named Haddock went into the house kept by the defendant about 8.30am, after having been at work all night, and remained there until noon. When he left he was in a mad state of drunkenness and went immediately to the PRINCE OF WALES INN, where he was refused drink, and he thereupon smashed windows, and the door. He afterwards walked into the canal, and was taken to a friend’s house to change his clothes, but he behaved so badly that he was eventually locked up. Haddock had since been before the court and charged with being drunk and disorderly. He was ordered to pay the costs. With regard to the gaming they would hear from the man Haddock that he and three other men played ‘Up it’ in the house for two hours for pints of ale. William Haddock, a miner, of 38, High Street, Moseley Village said three games of ‘Up it’ were played in the PRINCE CONSORT, and the losers paid for pints of ale. He had a great deal to drink in the house, and shared with the others, but could not remember how many pints they had. He did not remember leaving the house nor smashing the windows of the PRINCE OF WALES, nor even getting into the canal. He remembered nothing until he found himself at Willenhall Police Station.

Benjamin Shotton, a miner, of Mount Pleasant, New Invention, said when Haddock left the PRINCE CONSORT he was perfectly sober. He went in the direction of the PRINCE OF WALES, and he believed he was there about 1½ hours. While they were in the house kept by the defendant they played ‘Up it’ but only for pastime. They were served there with about six or seven pints each. Samuel Dean, of the Sandbeds, Willenhall, said that Haddock and himself had three pints of ale at the PRINCE OF WALES. They stayed there nearly two hours. *John Nicholls*, licensee of the PRINCE OF WALES, said Haddock was drunk when he entered his house and witness refused to supply him and also put him out. Haddock then broke the barroom window and a window in the door. Witness had issued a summons against him for the damage. The defence was a total denial of both charges.

After consultation, the Bench imposed a fine of £5 and costs, total £12 0s 11d, including solicitor’s fee, upon the charge of permitting drunkenness, but dismissed the second charge with regard to the gaming. William Haddock, mentioned in the above case, was then summoned for doing wilful damage to the extent of 3s 6d at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, New Invention. Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was ordered to pay the costs, and also the amount of the damage.”

1911 Census

75, Lichfield Road, New Invention

- [1] *John Nicholls* (37), beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [2] Eliza Nicholls (36), wife, married 14 years, assist in business, born Walsall;
- [3] Elizabeth Gertrude Nicholls (14), daughter, school, born Walsall;
- [4] John Nicholls (7), son, school, born Oldbury;
- [5] James Henry Nicholls (4), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Richard Wilfred Nicholls (2), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Florence Edwards (19), general servant, born Walsall:

John Nicholls Snr. – see also COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Darlaston, BRADES TAVERN, Oldbury, and ROBIN HOOD, Shepwell Green.

Walsall Advertiser 17/7/1915

“At Walsall County Court, on Wednesday, before Judge Howard Smith, an action was brought by John H. Cleary, a whitesmith, of New Invention, who claimed £2 10s from Samuel Edwards, tailor, of Stafford Street, Walsall, as money paid for a consideration which failed.

Mr. Frank Platt, for plaintiff, said defendant arranged with a Mr. *Bickley*, the landlord of the PRINCE OF WALES public house, New Invention, to hold a clothing club at the public house. Customers who wanted clothes paid a shilling contribution per week. Each week there was a draw at the public house as to the turn in which customers should receive clothes. Cleary became a member of the club, and according to the draw had the third draw. The landlord paid out 25s from the clothing club, and plaintiff also paid a sovereign to defendant, as the suit was to cost £2 5s. The suit, however, was not satisfactory, as the trousers would not fit, and he was afraid to bend. (Laughter). Then defendant said he would allow the landlord to sell the clothes to anyone for £1, and if plaintiff would pay another 5s (over the £2 5s already paid) he would make him another suit. Plaintiff paid the extra 5s, but had not yet had the suit, and the landlord still held the sovereign, and the suit had not been returned.

Mr. J. D. Evans, for the defence, said they would be satisfied if they got the £1 back from the landlord.

Mr. Platt, however, said the landlord had money coming to him from the defendant.

His Honour gave judgment for plaintiff for the amount claimed.”

South Staffordshire Times 27/7/1922

“The principal meeting of the County Licensing Committee was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Thursday morning..... The licenses of the PRINCE OF WALES, New Invention (*James Bickley*) were also refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/8/1922

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County of Stafford.

Notice as to sending in Claims to be treated as Persons Interested in Licensed Premises.

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

PRINCE OF WALES, New Invention. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *James Bickley*. Registered owners, Bloxwich Brewery Co. Ltd.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/10/1922

“A Supplementary Meeting of the Staffordshire Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1910, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday. The Committee approved the following awards of compensation.....

PRINCE OF WALES, New Invention, beerhouse, ante 1869, £2,550.”

It closed in 1922, after £2,550 compensation was paid.

PRINCE OF WALES

57, Walsall Street, (Church Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Jeremiah Bratt

Randle Hobley

[Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.](#)

[Courage Ltd.](#)

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

C Bratt [1864] – [1866]
Jeremiah Bratt [1881] – [1900]
Randle Hobley [1901] – [1916]
John J Wardle [1932]
Samuel Tongue [1940]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/12/1864

“Rebeca Hazledine was charged with obtaining three pairs of boots from Mr. Willis, boot and shoe maker, of Willenhall, under false pretences. She got the boots in the name of Mrs. *Bratt*, of the PRINCE OF WALES committed to the Sessions for trial.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 16/6/1866

“S. Gee of Willenhall will run W. Constable 100 or 120 yards, or G. Haines 100 yards, or take a yard start in 120, either match to be for £10 or £15 a side. Money ready at Mr. *Bratt*'s PRINCE OF WALES TAVERN, Willenhall. To run in a month from signing articles.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/12/1866

“S. Gee of Willenhall will run Hope (alias Deerfoot) of Darlaston or A. Steward of Wolverhampton 120 yards, or take two yards start in the like distance of H. Lownes of Wolverhampton. A match, for £10 or £15 a side, can be made any day next week at *C. Bratt*'s, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Willenhall.”

Jeremiah Bratt = Jeremiah Brett

1881 Census

57, Walsall Street

- [1] *Jeremiah Bratt* (44), rim locksmith and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Rebekiah Bratt (55), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Eliza Burrows (23), general servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/10/1882

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Jeremiah Bratt*, landlord of the PRINCE OF WALES beerhouse, Walsall Street, was fined 10s and costs for supplying ale to James Doyle whilst drunk; and Doyle was himself fined 5s and costs for being drunk on licensed premises.”

1891 Census

57, Walsall Street – PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *Jeremiah Bratt* (54), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Harriet Bratt (49), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Harriet Hall (31), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Randle Hobley* (23), boarder, lock maker, born Willenhall:

Jeremiah Brett was also a lock maker. [1892]

Jeremiah Bratt was the uncle of *Randle Hobley*.

1901 Census

57, Walsall Street – PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *Randle Hobley* (33), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Elizabeth Hobley (32), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Randle Hobley (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Harry Hobley (8 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Sarah Harback (17), housemaid, born Willenhall;
- [6] Sarah Brindley (15), housemaid, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

57, Walsall Street

- [1] *Randle Hobley* (43), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;

- [2] Elizabeth Hobley (42), wife, married 16 years, assisting in business, born Willenhall;
- [3] Sarah Harback (28), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [4] Doris Harback (14), daughter, schoolgirl, born Willenhall;
- [5] Harry Harback (10), son, schoolboy, born Willenhall:

Randle Hobley was also a brewer.

He was elected to the Willenhall District Council in 1907.

He was chairman of Willenhall District Council 1924-25.

He died in 1945, aged 78.

Samuel Westwood stabbed his wife, Lydia, to death, outside here on 11th September 1920.

He was hanged at Winson Green prison on 30th December 1920.

John J. Wardle, beer retailer, 57, Walsall Street. [1932]

Demolished

It was rebuilt in 1939.

[Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1977](#)

“Thousands of Midland drinkers will be forced to change their drinking habits next year – because of a Government report. Three major breweries are to swop 437 pubs – leaving drinkers to choose between their favourite public house or their favourite beer. The deal was announced yesterday by Ansells, owned by Allied Breweries, Mitchells and Butlers, owned by Bass Charrington, and Courage. The move, involving public houses valued at £11,000,000, was prompted by a Monopolies Commission report seven years ago which claimed that breweries had too much of a stranglehold in certain towns and cities Tenants and managers are being given the opportunity to stay on new terms or change to another establishment. Managers can also opt for voluntary redundancy.....

M & B tenanted houses transferred to Courage.....

PRINCE OF WALES, Walsall Street, Willenhall.”

[2016]

[Express & Star 2/11/2022](#)

“A ‘dilapidated’ old pub which fell victim to Covid could be converted into new housing in Willenhall. An applicant, listed as Mr. Kang, has put forward proposals to Walsall Council planners to create six new apartments within the former PRINCE OF WALES pub on Walsall Street. The pub was closed for business due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and representatives for the developer said the building has been left in a state of neglect. They also said it was rife for vandalism, adding the redevelopment of the venue would breathe new life into the area and provide much needed housing.....”

QUEENS ARMS

New Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Parkes [1851]

George Barnfield [1852] – [1858]

NOTES

1851 Census

New Street, Portobello – QUEENS ARMS

[1] *Richard Parkes* (40), stone miner, born Rowley;

[2] *Fanny Parkes* (39), wife, born Tipton;

[3] *Harriett Parkes* (2), daughter, born Tipton;

[4] *Richard Parkes* (13), son, stone miner, born Tipton;

[5] *Isaac Evans* (24), lodger, stone miner, born Wales (NK):

London Gazette 2/3/1858

“Whereas a Petition of *George Barnfield*, at present and for seven weeks now last past residing in lodgings at Mr. Henry Lowes, of the ROYAL OAK INN, in New-street, in Portobello, in the township of Willenhall, in the parish of Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford, out of business, before then and for six years previously thereto residing at and keeping the house known or called by the name or sign of the QUEENS ARMS, in New-street, in Portobello aforesaid, and during such last-mentioned time being a person Licensed to Brew and to Sell Beer, Ale, and Porter, by Retail, and also a Dealer in Tobacco at the said house, and before then and for two years previous thereto being in the employ of Henry Eld, of the Forge Mill, near Oldridge, and of the Shenstone Mill, in Shenstone, both in the said county of Stafford, Miller, as a Journeyman Miller, and during such last-mentioned period residing in cottages belonging to the Mills aforesaid, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at the Court-house, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *George Barnfield*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *George Barnfield* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 19th day of March instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *George Barnfield*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, in Queen-street, Wolverhampton, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

QUEENS ARMS

41+42, (20), Walsall Street / Russell Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Amos Bruerton [1841] – 1850);
Mrs. Sarah Bruerton (1850 – 1851);
Charles Perks (1851 – [1908]
Edward Painting* [1911] – [1921]
Edward Henry Painting* [1932] – [1943]
Les Skitt [1964]

NOTES

20, Walsall Street [1892], [1896]
41+42, Walsall Street [1881], [1891], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932], [1939], [1940]

1841 Census

Walsall Street

[1] *Amos Bruerton* (24), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Sarah Bruerton* (30), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Ann Bruerton* (1), born Staffordshire:

Amos Bruerton was also a plumber and painter. [1845], [1849], [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/3/1848 - Advert

“Ponies For Sale.

To be Sold, a pair of Ponies, 5 and 6 years old, 12 hands high, will run either in double or single harness.

For particulars apply to Mr. *Amos Bruerton*, QUEENS ARMS, Willenhall.”

Amos Bruerton died on 2nd April 1850.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/4/1850

“At the county petty sessions, held at the Magistrates’ Clerk’s Office, Garrick Street, on Monday last, the licenses of the following public houses were transferred.....

QUEENS ARMS, Willenhall, to *Sarah Breuerton*, widow of *Amos Breuerton*.”

1851 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Sarah Bruerton* (44), widow, victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ann Bissell (19), domestic servant, born Bromsgrove;
- [3] Jane Taylor (10), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [4] Ann Rutter (13), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Sarah Bruerton died in the 2nd quarter of 1851.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/6/1851

“At a special sessions for the transfer of victuallers’ licenses within the hundred of Seisdon North, held on Monday last..... QUEENS ARMS, Willenhall, from the executors of the late *Sarah Bruerton* to *Charles Perks*, of Willenhall.”

Charles Perks = Charles Parks

Charles Perks was also a butcher. [1851], [1860], [1861], [1865], [1868], [1872], [1873], [1874], [1892]

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/7/1852

“John Rutter was charged with stealing a crown piece from John Martin, at Willenhall, on the 14th of July. The prosecutor it appeared, was at the QUEENS ARMS, public house, Willenhall, on the night in question, and on tendering a crown piece to the waiter in payment for some ale, the prisoner, who had been drinking in the same room, snatched it out of his hand and left the house. He was pursued for some distance by the prosecutor, on failing to over-take him, gave information to the police, and, upon inquiry, it was discovered that he had changed the crown piece at another public-house, and he was shortly afterwards apprehended. On the following morning, he said to the police-officer who had him in custody the prosecutor had given him the crown piece in mistake for a penny. The prisoner now made the same defence; but the prosecutor denied that he had had any money transacted with Rutter on the evening in question. It appeared that the prisoner was labouring under the influence of drink when he was apprehended. He was found guilty, and a previous conviction for felony in 1849 having been proved against him, he was sentenced to be imprisoned for six months with hard labour, the learned Chairman reminding the prisoner that if he came there again he would be transported.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/7/1858

“On Monday and yesterday (Tuesday), the members of the following societies partook of their annual feasts at the inns at Willenhall or Portobello, where they respectively hold their meetings, namely the Independent Order of Oddfellows (No.1), at the QUEENS ARMS.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting for the renewal of Victuallers’ licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for licenses, for the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. Hayes applied for a license for the THREE TUNS beerhouse, King Street, Willenhall, kept by Thomas Williams. Mr. Hayes reminded the Bench that last year the Magistrates decided to grant the license, but through an informality in the serving of the notice they were compelled to reverse their decision. In support of the applicant Mr. Hayes remarked that the house was the property of the applicant; it had been built by him at a cost of £600, was very commodious, and had been carried on by him as a beer-house for a number of years without any complaint having been made. It was further stated that the applicant was the only car proprietor in Willenhall, and also that the revising barrister had selected Mr. Williams’ house as the most commodious, and had held his court there last year.

Mr. Underhill opposed for Mrs. *Perks*, of the QUEENS ARMS INN, and Mr. Hartill, of the ACORN INN, and contended that the applicant’s house being situate in a street at the upper end of which there was no outlet, and there being already a number of licensed houses in the immediate neighbourhood no additional accommodation was required. Since the last application was made Mr. Underhill said his client, Mrs. *Perks*, had also started cars, and with respect to the revising barrister having held his court there Mr. Underhill humourously suggested that this gentleman was met at the railway station, and not knowing anything of Willenhall was conveyed in one of the applicant’s cars to the applicant’s house. The license was granted.

Mr. Parkes applied for a license for the THREE TUNS, Walsall Road, Willenhall, kept by Meshach Rowley. Mr. Hayes made a similar application on behalf of Samuel Taylor, the landlord of the MILL STREET TAVERN, Mill Street, Willenhall. Mr. H. Underhill opposed for Mr. *Perks*, of the QUEENS ARMS, and Mr. Hartill, of the ACORN. Both applications were refused.”

1861 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Charles Perks* (38), licensed victualler, born Shairshill [Shareshill], Staffordshire;
- [2] Sarah Perks (31), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Charles Perks (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Ann Perks (9), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Sarah Perks (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Mary Perks (4), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Jessica Phillips (22), house servant, born Bewdley;

- [8] Ellen Wootton (19), house servant, born Willenhall;
[9] Sarah Brindley (13), nurse, born Bewdley;
[10] Joseph Tilsley (33), brewer, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

“Mr. Waterhouse made an application on behalf of Mr. Mesach Rowley, for a license to a house situated on the Willenhall and Walsall turnpike road, in the outskirts of Willenhall, and in a district which, he said, had lately sprung up. The nearest public houses were the QUEENS ARMS, which was about 143 yards distant, and the ACORN, which lay 156 yards away from his client’s house. Thirty-one dwellings had been erected since last year, and there was a population of 1,100 in the locality. The owners of the property surrounding the house had signed the applicant’s certificate, and the case he (Mr. Waterhouse) considered a strong one in Mr. Rowley’s favour.

Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of the occupiers of the ACORN and the QUEENS ARMS, and said that within a distance of 350 yards of Mr. Rowley’s house there were three public houses, and he thought it would require a good deal to persuade the Magistrates that they were not sufficient to meet the wants of the district.

The Bench refused the application.....”

1871 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Charles Perks* (49), butcher and publican, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;
[2] Sarah Perks (42), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] Priscilla Perks (22), daughter, born Willenhall;
[4] Ann Perks (19), daughter, born Willenhall;
[5] Mary Perks (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
[6] Catharine Perks (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
[7] Joseph Tildesley (43), servant, brewer, born Sedgley;
[8] Sarah Ann Brindley (23), general servant, born Brierley, Worcestershire:

Dudley Herald 28/3/1874

“Inquest held at QUEENS ARMS, Willenhall on Jane Towers (32), who was supposed to have been murdered at her house in King Street by Edward Breeze, during an altercation on Monday night last Verdict manslaughter.”

1881 Census

41 and 42, Walsall Street – QUEENS ARMS

- [1] *Charles Perks* (59), publican, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;
[2] Sarah Perks (52), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] Sarah Perks (23), daughter, born Willenhall;
[4] Mary Perks (20), daughter, born Willenhall;
[5] Catherine Clark (32), sister in law, born Willenhall;
[6] Elizabeth Deakin (20), general servant, born Willenhall;
[7] Charles Whooley (61), brewer and servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/1/1886

“The annual meeting of the Bilston, Walsall, and Cannock District of the United Order of Free Gardeners was held yesterday, at the QUEENS ARMS INN, Walsall Street, when about seventy delegates were present, representing over 2,000 members. Mr. Baldwin, district master, presided. After the usual formal business, the auditor’s report was read, from which it appeared that the funds were in a satisfactory condition, the total worth of the district being £1,050. The officers for the ensuing year were elected, and also representatives for the A.G.M., and the meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks.”

1891 Census

41+42, Walsall Street

- [1] *Charles Perks* (69), widower, publican, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;
[2] Mary Perks (41), daughter, born Willenhall;
[3] Sarah Perks (38), daughter, born Willenhall;
[4] Catherine Perks (25), daughter, born Willenhall;
[5] Catherine Clark (48), sister in law, born Willenhall;
[6] Elizabeth Townsend (30), general servant, born Willenhall;
[7] Robert Fereday (29), brewer, born Willenhall:
[The ages here do not match the ages in 1881 and 1901.]

1901 Census

Walsall Street – QUEENS ARMS

- [1] *Charles Perks* (79), licensed victualler, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;
[2] Sarah Perks (45), daughter, born Willenhall;
[3] Mary Perks (40), daughter, born Willenhall;

- [4] Catherine Perks (35), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Catherine Clark (52), sister in law, born Willenhall;
- [6] Rupert C. Baker (19), grandson, plumber's apprentice, born Willenhall;
- [7] Mary A. Green (22), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [8] Thomas Cook (53), widower, brewer, born Chester:

* possibly the same person

Edward Painting = Edward Paintin
He was also married to Louise.

1911 Census

42, Walsall Road (sic) – QUEENS ARMS

- [1] *Edward Paintin* (56), publican, born Swanbrook, Oxfordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Harriott Paintin (54), wife, married 32 years, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Harriott Pool (19), servant, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/7/1915 - Advert

“Wanted, General, assist in waiting; good references required.
Apply, QUEENS ARMS, Walsall Street, Willenhall.”

1939 Register

41+42, Walsall Street

- [1] *Edward H. Painting*, date of birth 16/2/1880, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Ethel M. Painting*, dob 14/8/1878, unpaid domestic duties, helps husband in business, married;
- [3] *Ethel R. (Painting) Tildesley*, dob 29/7/1904, art and craft teacher, (part time), single;
- [4] *Alfred T. Painting*, dob 10/10/1914, charge hand electrician, heavy electrical engineer, single;
- [5] *Ronald A. Painting*, dob 3/4/1920, jig and tool maker, single;
- [6] *Derek D. Painting*, dob 19/5/1922, grocer's assistant, single:

1943 Probate

“*Edward Henry Painting*, of QUEENS ARMS INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 10 February 1943. Probate Birmingham 28 June to *Ethel Mary Painting*, widow. Effects £3,530 9s 8d.”

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

Ian Skitt, son of *Les Skitt* was born here.
He went on to be the brewer of Skittain Ales at the BRITISH OAK, Dudley.

Closed

It was later Sidhu Clothing manufacturers.

QUEENS HEAD

41, (25), Walsall Street, (25, 26, and 27, Walsall Road), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd.
Ansells Ltd. [1946]

LICENSEES

Thomas Tildesley [1832]
Obadiah Dyer [1849] – [1872]
Richard Wright [1881]
George Hill (1886 – [1892]
Albert Hughes [1896]
Joseph Wright [1901] – [1911]
Mrs. Hannah Rollins [1916]

Arthur Noake [1921]
Mrs. Mary Isabel Hampton [1940]

NOTES

25, 26, and 27, Walsall Road [1881]
25+26, Walsall Road [1901]
41, Walsall Street [1911], [1940]
25, Walsall Street [1916], [1921]

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/4/1832 - Deaths

“On the 13th inst., at Wolverhampton, aged 31, Sarah, wife of Mr. *Thomas Tildesley*, of the QUEENS HEAD, Willenhall.”

Obadiah Dyer, beer retailer, Walsall Road. [1849]
Obadiah Dyer, retailer of beer and shopkeeper, Walsall Road. [1850], [1872]

1851 Census

Walsall Road

- [1] *Obadiah Dyer* (53), retail brewer, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Martha Dyer (49), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Lydia Dyer (29), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] William Dyer (18), son, padlock maker, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

“Mr. Whitehouse, on the part of Mr. *Obadiah Dyer*, of the QUEENS HEAD, applied for a [spirit] license. Mr. Underhill opposed the application on behalf of Mr. Hartill. Refused.”

1861 Census

Walsall Road – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Obadiah Dyer* (60), beer seller and grocer, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Martha Dyer (59), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Lydia Dyer (39), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] William Dyer (28), son, brass padlock maker, born Willenhall;
- [5] George D. Wood (10), grandson, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] William H. Wood (8), grandson, scholar, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/11/1861

“At the Petty Sessions, on Monday, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq., a man named Samuel Butler, residing at what is called the Island, was charged by *Obadiah Dyer*, the proprietor of a beerhouse, on Walsall Road, with having stolen two fowls. It appears that prosecutor saw his poultry safe in the fowl-shed late on Saturday night last, and at an early hour the following morning the place was found to have been broken into and two fowls, a cock and a hen, stolen. Suspicion fell upon the prisoner, in consequence of his having been seen by a policeman at about five o'clock the same morning the robbery was supposed to have been committed, on the road near the prosecutor's house, and also near a hole in the road side in which a number of feathers were shortly afterwards found. These feathers were identified by the prosecutor as being similar in colour and general appearance to those on one of the missing birds. The prisoner was eventually taken into custody, and his house searched by the police, but no trace of the stolen fowls was discovered, the only additional evidence being the finding of two small feathers in the prisoner's jacket pocket.

Mr. Slater, who appeared for the prisoner, submitted that there was no case made out against his client, and after a short deliberation the Bench decided to merely bind him over in his own recognizances to answer the charge when called on.”

Obadiah Dyer, retailer of beer, Walsall Road. [1862]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/5/1866 - Advert

“For Sale, a good Malt Crusher, on new principle; also two Pumps, one eight yards, and the other five yards long, also two Pups of the Retriever Breed, seven weeks old.
Apply, QUEENS HEAD, Walsall Road, Willenhall.”

1871 Census

Walsall Road

- [1] *Obadiah Dyer* (73), beer seller and small grocer, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Lidia Dyer (49), daughter, housekeeper, born Wolverhampton;

- [3] William Dyer (38), brass lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] George Dyer Wood (20), grandson, brass lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [5] William Henry Wood (18), grandson, brass lock maker, born Willenhall:

1881 Census

25, 26, and 27, Walsall Road – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Richard Wright* (49), jobbing smith and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Leonard Wright (22), son, jobbing smith, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Joseph Wright* (19), son, jobbing smith, born Willenhall;
- [4] John Wright (17), son, iron caster, born Willenhall;
- [5] Annie Jackson (20), general servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Emma Wright (40), wife, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/3/1896

“*Albert Hughes*, QUEENS HEAD INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, was charged with permitting gambling on his licensed premises. A constable visited the house on two different dates and saw men gambling for drink. The defendant was fined 40s and costs in one case, and 20s and costs in the second case.”

1901 Census

25+26 Walsall Road – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Joseph Wright* (39), cycle maker and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Jenny Wright (32), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] W. Percy Wright (10), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Marion Wright (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Violet Wright (9 months), daughter, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

41, Walsall Street

- [1] *Joseph Wright* (49), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sarah Jane Wright (42), wife, married 21 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] William Percy Wright (20), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Marion Wright (13), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
- [5] Violet Wright (10), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
- [6] Harriet Lilian Wright (7), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
- [7] Edith Appleby (21), servant, born Bloxwich:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

A team from here took part in the Willenhall (Ansells) Crib League. [1946]

Closed

RAILWAY

1, Bilston Street, (Bilston Road), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Ward [1854] – [1872]
Ann Dolphin [1881]
John Blewitt [1886] – [1891]
Joseph Foster [1911] – [1912]
Albert Edward Kay [1940]
W Stokes [1983]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

“Mr. Underhill next applied for a [spirit] license to the RAILWAY TAVERN, on behalf of Mr. *John Ward*, which was opposed by Mr. Parkes, on behalf of Mr. Lloyd. Refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/6/1855

“At the Borough Police Court, on Wednesday, before J. Leigh and S. Cartwright, Esqrs, Joseph Rose, beerseller, Coseley, and *John Ward*, publican, Willenhall, pleaded guilty to the charge of having in their possession and using grains of paradise, and were each fined £50. Mr. J. Underhill, who appeared for the latter defendant, said he was prepared to prove that the charge was untrue, but the defendant had been advised by his friends to plead guilty on the ground that if he made a successful resistance an appeal would follow, when to win would be more expensive than to lose. Mr. Leigh thought the appeals by the excise involved a great deal of hardship to defendants.”

John Ward, beer retailer, Bilston Street. [1861], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1872]

1861 Census

Bilston Street

- [1] *John Ward* (50), publican, born Stafford;
- [2] Susannah Ward (47), wife, born Stafford;
- [3] Edward Ward (15), son, born Stafford;
- [4] William Ward (10), son, born Stafford;
- [5] Richard Ward (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] Mary Ann Wheaton (20), born Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/8/1863

“Charles Henstoke, of Walsall, was brought up in custody, and charged with having stolen, on the evening of the 7th inst, a waistcoat, value 5s, the property of Joseph Galsby. Prosecutor said that on the night in question he was at the RAILWAY TAVERN, Willenhall, and there met with the prisoner, with a woman, whom he stated to be his wife. Prisoner was asking for lodgings, and, as the landlord of the RAILWAY TAVERN could not accommodate him, prosecutor told him that he could sleep that night at his house. He went with him, and occupied prosecutor’s bed that night. When he left next day the waistcoat was missed. The next night prosecutor happened to meet with the defendant at Walsall; he was then wearing the waistcoat. Information was given to Police-constable Simpson, who immediately took him into custody. When charged, he said, ‘It is all right. I gave 8d for it of the woman; I’ll make it hot for her the next time that I meet her. I shall not deny the charge. I know that it was the man’s waistcoat.’ The Bench committed him to gaol for one month with hard labour.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/8/1864

“Mr. John Conway, of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Willenhall, was yesterday charged on a summons with unlawfully killing and slaying a fowl, the property of Joseph Benton. Complainant keeps a house and fowls opposite some waste ground which is the property of defendant. On this ground the fowls found air, exercise, and food, to the injury as defendant thought of his grass. He warned Benton to keep them off the ground, but in vain, and the other day he pelted one he found there until it died. The Bench told him he did wrong, and must pay for the fowl. Complainant said it was worth 2s 6d, but acknowledged that he ate it; and the Bench therefore made an order for 1s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/3/1866

“Wolverhampton Borough Quarter Sessions.

The Lent Quarter Sessions for this Borough were commenced on Tuesday morning last, at the Public Office, Garrick-street. In the absence of the Recorder (J. J. Powell, Esq.), J. Gray, Esq., Q.C. (of the Oxford Circuit), presided.

Patrick Cane, 56, labourer, and Mary Cane, 55, his wife, were indicted for the wilful murder of Enoch Augustus Hooper, a police-constable, stationed at Willenhall, on the 8th of December, 1865. The male prisoner was charged with the offence on the Coroner’s inquisition as well as upon the indictment. Cane and his wife are a miserable, unhealthy-looking couple, and appear older than they are stated to be. Both pleaded not guilty. The female is very deaf, and probably heard but little of the proceedings. A model of the locality was placed upon the barrister’s table, and was of much assistance to all concerned in the investigation of the case.

Mr. McMahan and Mr. Motteram (instructed by Mr. Travis) appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Young and Mr. Bosanquet (instructed by Mr. Bartlett) defended the prisoners.

Mr. McMahan opened the case for the prosecution, after which the following witnesses were called and examined:—

Robert Hamilton: I am an assistant to Mr. Griffiths, the county surveyor. I made the model produced; it carefully represents the row of cottages in one of which the prisoners lived, together with the surrounding premises and the interior of the prisoner’s house. It also shows Love-alley, and the front and back wicket.

Benjamin Thomas Oswald: I am superintendent of police, at Stafford. I made the plans produced, which correctly represent the

different places laid down thereon.

John Ward: I am the landlord of the RAILWAY TAVERN, in Bilston-street, Willenhall. On Friday evening, the 9th of December, the prisoners, Patrick and Mary Cane, were drinking in my house, four other men being with them. One of them, a young man called Patsey, another called O'Donnell, and another was called McCue, and the other was called McNally. They came to my house at six or seven, and were all out by eleven o'clock. I understood that McNally was a lodger at the prisoners.

Thomas Williams: I am landlord of the ROYAL GEORGE INN, Walsall-street, and recollect Police-officer Butler being in my house about a quarter after eleven on the Friday night in question. Patsey was there, with three others whom I did not know. He asked for lodgings, and I told him they could not be accommodated. The policeman was there all the time, and followed the other men out. Patsey asked if he was coming to turn them out, and he said 'No.' Patsey said no policeman could turn him out. They went across the road, Butler followed, and I ordered the door to be closed. I heard a disturbance some time afterwards.

Cross-examined: I heard Patsey say he could thrash all the policemen in Willenhall. He had not been heard of since that night. He has lived in Willenhall up to that time. Another of the men in the house that night has not been heard of since.

Thomas Smith was then called, and proved the death of his brother Charles Smith, a witness, who died suddenly on Wednesday morning. He added: I was in the Court when my brother was examined before the Magistrates. The deposition of the deceased was read by the Clerk of Arraignment. It was to the effect that hearing an alarm on the night in question, he opened his window and saw Butler with a man in custody, and saw policeman Hooper standing near the back door of Cane's house. Two or three men came out of the back yard, and struck three or four blows at the policeman, after which they ran away past Butler. The blows sounded like body blows. He saw Hooper go to Butler, who asked him to assist him. Butler was at this time at the front wicket. The body blows did not knock Hooper down, nor did he stagger, but walked straight to Butler. Hooper disappeared through the wicket.

By the Bench: Hooper seemed to stumble as he went by the wicket. Thomas Smith was further examined, and said:— I am a locksmith, and live near the prisoners. My brother lived in the same house. On the night of the 8th of December I went to bed about ten o'clock. About twelve I heard cries of 'Murder' in Love-alley. I saw Butler with a prisoner there. The prisoner was in the gutter near the front wicket, his head against the wall of the house. I could just see Hooper standing as near as possible to the centre of the back wicket. Hooper had also a prisoner, who was making a great noise. About the same time I saw the two prisoners, Cane under my window, and Mrs. Cane two or three yards from the wicket. I heard a fresh wrestle against the back wicket. Three or four men came out of the back yard and set upon Hooper. I saw two of them run away towards the gas lamp. I could not recognise any of the prisoners except Patrick and Mary Cane. Butler was, at the time the two men ran away, against the front wicket. Hooper went towards him and waived to and fro and then stumbled, and went from my sight by way of the front wicket. Close to the gable end of the building a gutter runs and passes the front of the wicket. I could not see anything that took place from my window beyond the front wicket. After I saw Hooper stumble, Butler snatched his prisoner up and took him towards the gas lamp, and then I heard some one cry 'Murder! A policeman is murdered,' or something like it. From the time that I saw Hooper stumble to this time would be about two minutes. Hooper stood upright at the centre of the gate about half a minute before he staggered. I did not see Hooper go from the back to the front wicket. There was nothing peculiar in his walk until he began to stagger.

Cross-examined by Mr. Young: I did not see Patrick Cane at the time the men were engaged in the wrestle. I did not see him after I saw him under my window until they brought him out of the house.

John Whitehouse, jun.: I live with my father and mother in Bilston-street. On the night of the 8th of December I heard a noise and got up and went to my room window, which looks into Love-alley. I saw Hooper come round the corner with a man, who shouted out. A man came out of Cane's house, by the back door, and struck the policeman a time or two, but with what I cannot say. This man, Hooper's prisoner, and Hooper wrestled together, the struggle continuing about a minute. Both men then loosed the officer and ran away towards the front wicket. Hooper ran seven or eight yards up to Butler, after them.

Cross-examined: I saw one of the men make a blow at Hooper. I myself called that a 'stabbing blow.' After that blow was given the man who gave it ran away.

By the Judge: I saw two or three blows given. On being struck Hooper let his prisoner go; the latter ran down the alley.

By Mr. Young: I have said that in my opinion the 'stabbing blow' was the blow that killed the officer. The man who inflicted it had light trousers on.

Re-examined: After the blow the wrestle continued for a minute. I called it a stabbing blow because it was struck overhand. I did not see more than one blow of that kind given. The others were more straight than overhand, and followed the 'stabbing bow.'

John Whitehouse, sen.: I am the father of the last witness. I went to my back window after my son, the last witness had been there. I saw Butler, near the front wicket, struggling with two men. He had hold of one. There were also two other men. Butler was striking with a staff. The two men afterwards ran away towards the lamp. Hearing Benton shout, I left my house and went to the front wicket, where I saw Hooper lying between the first and second window all of a ruck. I placed his head on my knee; he just moved his mouth a few times.

Cross-examined: Before I left the room I saw a man with light trousers and a black coat on, going towards Bilston-street, creeping as close as he could to the wall of the building in Love-alley, as if he feared to be seen.

William Butler: I am a police-constable, stationed at Willenhall. I was on duty in the neighbourhood of Love-alley, Willenhall, on the night of the 8th of December last, and heard quarrelling in the GEORGE INN, in Walsall-street, about a quarter before twelve o'clock. I went in and looked over the screen. There were four men there drinking. The name of one of them was McCue, I have since learned. I heard one of the men ask the landlady for lodgings, and she said she would not let them have any. When the landlord came downstairs, he told them he should not find any lodgings there; and one of them said he wanted to know if he had brought a policeman to turn them out. He ordered them out, and they left. As they went out of the door one of them said he could thrash all the policemen in Staffordshire. All were together when that was said. They went out before me. Two of them crossed to the other side of the street, and one stood in the middle of the street. The one that had used threatening language stood

in Bilston-street. I had to pass him on my beat, two or three minutes after I came out of the GEORGE. I believe his name is O'Donnell. He struck me and ran up the entrance to Love-alley. I caught him in the alley, near the RAILWAY TAVERN. The others (Patesy, McCue, and McNally,) came running after him, and rescued him from me. They struck and kicked me. I defended myself, first, with my fist, and then I got my staff. I took McCue; while I had hold of him, the other men struck and kicked me. I fought them with my staff. Two of them caught hold of it, and drew me out of a corner in which I had placed myself. Having the staff fastened to my wrist, I was able to snatch it out of their hands, and the wrestle continued between the front and back wicket. Midway two of them, Patesy and O'Donnell, I believe, ran away. McCue, who I then had in custody, shouted 'Murder, I'm kill't,' and Mary Cane came out of her house by the front way into the alley. I was just then at the corner of the house by the wicket. She struck me several times with her fist. I struck her on the top of her head with my staff, which had already been broken. She cried out, 'Murder,' and ran into the house by the front way. Patrick Cane then came out and struck me four or five times, but I still had hold of my prisoner. I knocked Cane down with a blow in the face with my fist, and went on wrestling with McCue. The wrestle continued about two yards and a half below the wicket, after this occurred. I then turned round, and saw Hooper near the back wicket, coming down. He came towards me. He had his right hand on his left breast. This was his usual way of walking. He walked upright and fast. When about three yards from me, I spoke to him, and said, 'There is one of the men that has been assaulting me.' I saw Hooper follow Cane through the wicket. I was then taking the prisoner down the alley. I saw Hooper stagger back, and fall against the window of the second house. I did not see any more of him until I had been to the station and lodged my prisoner there. Patrick Cane was in the front yard when I saw Hooper stagger and fall. I saw no one else. I was at the station for six or seven minutes, and then returned. I found Hooper quite dead. He was lying on his back in a pool of blood. Other policemen came up afterwards, and I went to the back door of Cane's house. The door was shut. Whilst I was at the back I heard others at the front. Mary Cane came to the door and let me in. I asked who was in the house, and she made no answer. I took a candle out of her hand and went into the front room. Police-constable Titterton was with me. He took the candle and went upstairs, and I followed him into the front room. John Leonard and James Cane were in bed in that room. I went into the back room, and told Patrick Cane he must get up, because he was wanted. He said he would not get up as he had done nothing. I said I should have to pull him out of bed. He then got up, but refused to dress himself; but having been dressed with the exception of his boots, which he would not put on, he was taken to the Police Station. Afterwards Mary Cane was apprehended. She said I was going to murder her. There was no blood on her head. After lodging her in the station I went back again. I discovered blood on the latch of the back door, on the case of the door, and on the wall an inch or two from it. There was also blood on the stairs which lead to the back bedroom. I found blood on the knob of the inside of the front door, and also blood on the case. I found a dark waistcoat in the front room down stairs, on which there was blood. I gave the waistcoat to Thompson, and Patrick Cane said it was his. Cross-examined: I struck one man, and knocked him against the wall, and did not see what became of him afterwards. He is one of the missing men.

Mr. Young: In your deposition it is stated that you said 'Cane struck me with his right hand, and had hold of me with his left;' is that true? – Butler: I don't believe I said that before the Magistrates. I don't think my deposition was read over to me, but I read it and signed it. I believe the statement in the deposition is not quite true. I knocked Cane down inside the wicket. Hooper came up in a few seconds, and Cane had got up and was near the second window when Hooper closed with him. Cane did not go into his house and return before Hooper got up to him. I did not see any man wrestling with Hooper, or strike him an over-handed blow. He did not stumble at the wicket, as I perceived. The clothes about Hooper's breast were saturated with blood. There were three or four people, whom I had seen round Hooper's body, in Cane's house before Cane was brought down. Wakelam was one of them.

Re-examined: I merely raised Hooper's head; there was no blood upon it. I do not know who had been in the house while I was away at the station. I left Grattan in charge of the house, and as far as I know no one entered in my absence. There was no one in when I entered.

Edensor Titterton: I am a police-constable at Willenhall. I went to Hooper and touched the body myself. No blood came upon me. I merely touched the hand. I afterwards went to Cane's house. Witness spoke to the apprehension of Cane, and his being taken to the police station. Police officers Thompson, Butler, and Craddock, and some civilians accompanied me from the station to Cane's house. I took the waistcoat, which had been identified by Cane, from the floor of the front room, and found blood on it.

Cross-examined: There was a great number of people round Hooper's body.

Mathew Craddock: I am a police-constable at Willenhall. I went to the place where Hooper was lying dead. I saw Titterton and Butler there. There was a great number about. I did not touch Hooper. I afterwards went to Cane's house. Butler and Titterton were upstairs. I saw Mary Cane taken away and I took Patrick Cane into custody.

Henry Benton: I am a key maker, living in Bow-street, Willenhall, in the next house to Patrick Cane's. I was aroused on the night of Friday, December 8th, by hearing a man's voice crying 'I'm being kill't, I'm being kill't.' I got up, went down stairs and unlocked and opened the back door. Standing on the doorsill I saw Patrick Cane coming along the back yard towards his own house. I said 'What's the matter Mr. Cane?' He replied 'To hell with you.' He was in shirt sleeves. I went into the house, fastened the back door, and went to the front, where I heard some man say 'Oh, dear.' I proceeded in the direction of the sound and found Hooper under the second window. His cap was on the floor, and his stick in his right hand. He was in a sitting posture, with his head leaning forward, his face towards Cane's house and his back towards the window. I saw no one else about, until I met Mr. Wakelam. I fetched Mr. Pitt, surgeon. I did not touch Hooper's body.

Cross-examined: Cane had a waistcoat on. I have been examined before the Magistrates, and I am not certain whether I said I did not know whether Cane had a waistcoat on or not. If I said so it was a mistake. I saw nothing in Cane's hand.

Sarah Benton, wife of the last witness, said she heard cries of 'I'm being kill't,' on the night in question. She also heard Cane's front door open, and some one go out and return, after which the door was closed. Afterwards some one walked across the back yard and opened the back door. Her husband afterwards got up and went down stairs. She heard him speak to Cane and Cane's reply.

Hannah Whitehouse deposed to having met Mary Cane between the privy and the lamp in the course of the disturbance on the night in question. She was going homewards.

Maria Wakelam, wife of George Wakelam, of Bow-street, said she was standing against the lamp, when she saw Patesy and another man come running from Love-alley into Bow-street. She afterwards saw Butler, who charged her to assist him in conveying McCue to the station, which he did. She saw Cane's door open, and found Hooper's body on the ground, no person being then near. She lifted up the head and Hooper gave one sigh. She had some blood on her hands. Afterwards she went to Cane's front door.

Cross-examined: Several people, besides herself lifted the body up. Her son and Mr. Pitt unbuttoned his coat. There was a great deal of blood about.

George Wakelam, husband of the last witness, stated that he went out of his house on the night in question, in consequence of hearing a disturbance, and proceeded in the direction of the five cottages. He went through the front wicket and found police-constable Hooper dead on the ground. Tried to lift him up, and could not. Went to Cane's front door and tried to open it. Afterwards went through Benton's house to Cane's back door, and tried it, but could not open it. Blood got on his hands in endeavouring to lift Hooper up, and he thought it was on his hand when he tried the door. Believed he was the first person at the door. When the door was opened by Mary Cane he went straight upstairs. He supposed the blood was on his hand then, for he did not wash his hands that night. He saw Patrick Cane and said 'Now Cane there's a poor man murdered; they tell me those who did the murder have come into your house; you must know something about it.' Witness did not go into the front room down stairs.

Cross-examined: He saw a good many people round Hooper's body handling it. Butler, Titterton, and Craddock all handled it. His son went up stairs in Cane's house; also Titterton, and Edward Thompson. He had not seen Thompson near the body.

George Wakelam, son of the last witness, corroborated some of the evidence which had been given before, adding that he attempted to burst Cane's front door open, and that he had blood on his hands from the prisoner McCue, whom he helped Butler to take to the police station, and who was bleeding.

James Richards having given evidence in corroboration of points previously proved.

Thomas Grattan, who said he lodged in Bow-street, with Mrs. Maddox, who inhabited the first of the five cottages, in one of which the prisoners lived, deposed that he got to the front window on the night in question and saw Butler with a prisoner. He afterwards saw Hooper come stumbling round the corner, and fall near the second window. He started to stumble when in the alley. Witness then dressed and went to the back door. He heard footsteps as of a man coming from the front to the back, and on opening the door he saw Cane come into the yard. When he (Cane) reached his door witness heard a man ask him what was the matter, and he said 'To hell with you.' Witness admitted no one into Cane's house while it was in his charge. On the Thursday following witness, Police-constable Thompson, and Titterton were in the house, and witness found the pair of boots produced in a corner of the fire place. There were spots of blood on the front leather of both of them.

Cross-examined: When the police returned from taking the prisoners into custody on the night in question about five persons including police were admitted into the house.

Elizabeth Maddox, with whom the last witness said he lodged, deposed that about twelve o'clock on the night of the 8th of December she heard a cry of 'Murder, he is killing me.' She also heard Patrick Cane's voice saying 'Open the door, and let me come in.' Witness got up and opened the front window, and saw two men at the wicket. She had previously seen two men run away. After the last two men went down the alley Mrs. Cane came up and went towards the home. Butler had then gone with his prisoner down the alley. She spoke to Mary Cane and asked her what was the matter, but she made no reply; perhaps she did not hear the question. Witness also saw Hooper. It was after he dropped she saw Mary Cane. Hooper went through the wicket while Butler and his prisoner were there. He seemed to be stooping as he went through and to be going gradually towards the ground until he got to the window. He then fell down. She saw no persons present at the time but Butler and his prisoner. She did not see Patrick Cane then, and he must have passed under her window if he had come out.

The learned Judge, addressing Mr. McMahan, pointed out that this evidence was rather inconsistent with some that had gone before.

Mr. McMahan said he proposed now simply to examine the surgeons.

His Lordship: Oh, you had better fully investigate your case.

Mr. William Pitt, surgeon, Willenhall, deposed: I saw the body of Hooper on Friday night. I afterwards made a post mortem examination, in the presence of Mr. Hartill and another gentleman. The wound which caused death passed through the right lung to the back bone. It was an inch across, and divided the largest vein in the body. I know where the back and front wickets are. I should think the loss of blood from the wound would be so great that Hooper would fall directly it was inflicted. I do not think he could have walked from the back to the front wicket after the infliction of the wound. When I examined the body the blood had flowed to the upper part of the thighs, but if Hooper had walked from the back to the front wicket I think the blood would have flowed lower down. When the instrument was withdrawn the blood would not necessarily gush outside the clothes. Most of the blood was inside the shirt.

Cross-examined: Would the loss of blood incapacitate him from walking a few yards? – Loss of blood and shock.

Supposing the stab to have been given within two or three yards of the front wicket, and the deceased had instantly put his hand to the wound, remembering at the same time the thickness of the clothing, would you stake your professional reputation that he would not be capable of walking a few yards? – I do not think putting his hand to his breast would prevent the loss of blood. He might have staggered a yard or two, but I do not think he could walk the distance.

If Hooper had prevented the blood from flowing it would have gone lower than his thighs even though he had walked some distance? – I do not think he could have put sufficient pressure upon the wound, a great thickness of clothes being upon it, to prevent the flow of blood.

Mr. McMahan here said he felt that after the evidence of the last witness, with so grave a charge, he ought not to press the case further. He did not think it was safe for the jury to convict.

The Learned Judge said the charge was a most serious one, and it would be difficult to say who committed the murder. In order to convict a man of a crime of that nature there must be something beyond suspicion; something that would bring conviction home to him. It was perfectly consistent with all the facts as stated in the evidence, that some other men might have caused the death of the policeman; and, indeed, that the injuries had been caused by some other persons was most consistent with the facts. He had watched the case very attentively, and if the evidence for the prosecution is to be believed, the man at the bar could not have done it. It had been stated that after the blow from Butcher he fell inside the wicket, while witnesses who had been looking from the windows, deposed to having seen the deceased man Hooper stumbling on as he might be expected to do so after receiving such a wound outside. Immediately before this Cane had assaulted Butler; but at the time there was nothing to show that he was in possession of a knife. The Counsel for the prosecution were quite right in withdrawing from it after the evidence which had been given; but yet it was proper that the investigation should have been made, and he hoped that those to whom Hooper's death was attributed would yet be discovered. The evidence was very strong indeed as regarded some persons who did not seem to have been apprehended. He had now to direct the Jury to acquit the prisoners – and he might say against the wife there was no evidence.

The Jury then returned a verdict of Not Guilty.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/3/1866

“On Friday morning W. H. Phillips, Esq., Deputy Coroner, resumed the inquiry at the GEORGE HOTEL, touching the death of Charles Smith, a locksmith by trade, and at the time of his death about 45 years of age. It will be remembered that the deceased was bound over as a witness in the case of murdering the late Police-constable Hooper, which was tried at the Assizes at Stafford, last week, but on the morning of the day on which he should have started for Stafford to give evidence, he was found dead in bed. The inquest had been adjourned to allow of a post mortem examination to be made of the body, and Mr. Pitt, surgeon, to whom this had been entrusted, now stated that the heart of the deceased was twice its natural size, and the appearances generally led to the conclusion that he had suffered from disease of the heart, and that that had caused his death, as in other respects that body was in a healthy state. It further appeared that the deceased was of a very nervous temperament, and there is no doubt that his death was to some extent accelerated by the excitement under which he laboured with reference to his having to appear as a witness in the above case, as he had stated to his friends that he wished it was over, and that he did not like undergoing the ordeal of being examined as a witness.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/4/1866

“At the Police Court, on Monday, before N. N. Solly and J. E. Bealey, Esqs., and Irishman named Patrick Finan was summoned by Henry Benton for threatening him. The complainant was a witness at the last Assizes against the old man Cain, and his wife, who were accused of the murder of the late Police-constable Hooper. On Saturday evening last complainant went into the RAILWAY TAVERN beerhouse, and whilst there defendant pointed to him and said ‘That’s the b—— who gave evidence against Cain and his wife, but we’ll knock his —— brains out; we’ll kill the —— yet.’ He used several other expressions of a similar character, and so frightened the complainant that he now swore he felt in danger of his life from him. Defendant denied that he intended to do the complainant any harm, but the Magistrates ordered him to find good sureties for his keeping the peace for six months.”

1871 Census

1, Bilston Street – RAILWAY TAVERN

- [1] *John Ward* (60), beer seller, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Susannah Mary Ward* (56), wife, born Stone, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Richard Henry Ward* (13), son, solicitor’s general clerk, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Adams* (11), granddaughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Eliza Littlewood* (26), domestic servant, born Dudley:

1881 Census

1, Bilston Street – RAILWAY TAVERN

- [1] *Ann Dolphin* (66), widow, beerhouse keeper, born New Invention;
- [2] *Thomas Walters* (43), son, warehouse man, born Tipton;
- [3] *Elizabeth Harrison* (16), domestic servant, born Portobello:

John Blewitt = John Blewett

Sporting Life 24/2/1886

“Mr. William [sic] *Blewitt*, of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Willenhall, and Mr. Joseph Hingley, of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Darlaston, are matched to shoot at fifteen pigeon each, from five traps, five yards apart, 25 yards rise, 60 yards boundary, 1¼oz shot, double guns, use of both barrels, for £10 a side, on Monday, March 1. To trap and find birds against each other. First bird in trap at one o’clock sharp.”

The Sportsman 2/1/1886

“Lea Brook Grounds, Wednesbury.

Yesterday (Monday) snow fell heavily here. However, a goodly number of the admirers of the gun put in an appearance, the attraction being the pigeon-shooting match between Mr. J. Hingsley, of Darlaston, and Mr. *J. Blewett*, of Willenhall, who shot at fifteen pigeons each, from five traps five yards apart, 25 yards rise, and 60 yards fall, double guns, the use of both barrels, to find

birds and trap against each other. The match, notwithstanding the smallness of the stake (£20), created a great amount of excitement amongst the Black Country knights of the trigger. *Blewett* was the most fancied, and prior to the first bird being trapped the betting was evens, *Blewett* for choice. Hingsley, to the surprise of the Blewettites, on going on brought down six right off the reel, when the quotations were £10 to £5 on Hingsley. Mr. *Blewett*, on the other hand, performed very indifferently by missing his first four birds, this owing probably to his gun, which was a total stranger to him, but after getting used to it he greatly improved, but too late. Mr. Hingsley, 11 out of 15; Mr. *Blewett*, 9 out of 15.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 1/11/1889

“At the Bilston Police Court today (Friday), before Messrs. T. Holcroft and H. Ward, Thomas Byrne, a discharged soldier, was charged with obtaining by false pretences £1 from *John Blewitt*, RAILWAY TAVERN, Willenhall; money, food, and lodgings from Mrs. Preece, 4, Birmingham Street, Willenhall; and 3s from James Wedge, landlord of the NELSON INN, Bilston.

Blewitt stated that prisoner represented to him that he was about to take charge, as sergeant-instructor, of the Birmingham Volunteers, and that his soldier’s kit was at Mr. Preece’s house in Birmingham Street. On the strength of these statements witness lent him, as requested, two half-sovereigns.

Mrs. Preece went into the box to give evidence as to the charge in which she was concerned, when the prisoner became very excited shouting, ‘For — sake tell me off, gentlemen; I plead guilty to all this, I have just come out of the asylum; I don’t remember anything about it. For — sake tell me off, gentlemen.’

The Clerk explained to the prisoner that it was necessary to take the evidence, to which he replied excitedly, ‘What’s the use; I plead guilty to it all; send me to gaol, gentlemen. I can’t stand the suspense; my head’s bursting now.’

Prisoner having been quieted somewhat, Mrs. Preece stated that he went to her house and said he had been recommended by witness’s son, who was a soldier in Ireland, to apply to her for lodgings, as she would make him ‘sweet and comfortable.’ Her son, he said, looked fat and well, and she was very glad to hear it. He told her he had a note to cash, and borrowed 2s from her on the strength of this statement. He subsequently asked her to lend him 3s, but she did not do so.

James Wedge stated that the prisoner told him he had £10 worth of goods at the railway station for a man named Whalley, who was a soldier, and whom witness had formerly known. He further stated that there was £10 due to him in the Post Office Savings Bank, and went down to Bilston Post Office and inquired if the authorities had any money for him. He was told they had not, and he then filled up a printed form of some kind. He asked witness to go to the station to help him to fetch up his ‘kit,’ in which he said there were £10 worth of goods for Whalley, 50 yards of cloth, two Poll parrots, and two cages. He told witness that until he got his money from the bank he was without means, and witness then lent him 2s, another shilling being afterwards lent to the prisoner by witness’s sister.

The magistrates informed the prisoner that they were determined to commit him for trial upon the first charge only.

Prisoner appealed to the Bench not to send him to the Sessions. If they did he would have two men guarding him all the time he was in gaol, and he would be sent to the asylum again.

Mr. Ward: What shall you do if we discharge you?

Prisoner: I don’t want you to discharge me – send me to prison. He further stated that he had been a soldier in Egypt and had received a wound in the head. He had been told that the magistrates could deal with him under the Vagrancy Act, and he could, after he came out of gaol, obtain the help of the Prisoners Aid Society in getting a situation.

A consultation took place between the Bench and the Clerk, during which prisoner broke out, ‘Give me three months, gentlemen; anything, only for — sake tell me off.’

Ultimately the magistrates decided, by the prisoner’s wish, to send him to Stafford as a rogue and vagabond for three weeks.”

1891 Census

Bilston Road – RAILWAY TAVERN

- [1] *John Blewitt* (35), beerhouse keeper, born Essington;
- [2] *Lilian Blewitt* (29), wife, born Thurston, Hampshire;
- [3] *Fred Blewitt* (10), son, scholar, born Essington;
- [4] *Ernest Blewitt* (6), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Roland Blewitt* (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Mary Ball* (16), general servant, born Shareshill, Staffordshire:

1911 Census

Bilston Street – RAILWAY TAVERN

- [1] *Joseph Foster* (39), beerhouse keeper, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Edith Foster* (34), wife, married 5 years, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Norman Foster* (2), son, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Clara Pare* (20), servant, born Staffordshire:

Joseph Foster, beer retailer, Bilston Street. [1912]

[1983]

It was de-licensed.

It became a wine shop. [1986], [2007]

RED LION

68, Bloxwich Road, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Tart [1871]

NOTES

1871 Census

68, Bloxwich Road

[1] *John Tart* (44), publican, RED LION beer house, born Penkridge;

[2] *Charlotte Tart* (38), wife, born London;

[3] *Charlotte Tart* (9), daughter, scholar, born Paddington, London;

[4] *Ann Tart* (8), daughter, scholar, born Eton, Buckinghamshire;

[5] *Jane Tart* (6), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] *Emma Tart* (1), daughter, born Willenhall:

Check BLACK LION.

RED LION

45+46, (46), (24), (25), Brickkiln Street / North Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Perry [1852] – [1856]

Samuel Oliver [1871] – [1881]

Samuel Carless [1901] – [1904]

Frederick William Burrows [1911] – [1912]

Tom Wall* [1920]

Thomas H Wall* [1932]

Sydney Alexander [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

25, Brick Kiln Street [1861]

24, Brick Kiln Street [1871]

46, Brick Kiln Street [1881], [1901], [1940]

45+46, Brickkiln Street [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852](#)

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.

Mr. Pinchard applied for Mr. *W. Perry*, of the RED LION, Brickkiln Street, Portobello, stating in the course of his remarks, that the rent of the house was £31 a year, and the number of houses in that locality had very much increased.

Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mr. George Davis, in the same street. He stated that there were 120 houses already inhabited, that his client's house cost £800 and that it afforded more accommodation than that of Mr. *Perry*. He handed in a testimonial signed by several of the inhabitants and also a letter from the Rev. T. W. Fletcher who observed that in his opinion no candidate from the district had greater claims or was more worthy of being trusted with a license.

Mr. Hayes opposed both applications on behalf of Mr. Fisher, landlord of the BIRD IN HAND, and of Mr. Siddons, of the GOUGHS ARMS, Portobello. There were only 1,039 houses in that part of Portobello, and the number of houses in the entire district of St. Stephen, which went up to the Market Place, in Willenhall, was 2,826.

Mr. Underhill replied, stating that for every thousand inhabitants there was only one licensed house. The district had been increasing for the last few years. Mr. Pinchard also replied, observing that he thought other innkeepers ought to act upon the principle of 'Live and let live.'

The Magistrates, after some consideration, refused both applications."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

"Mr. Underhill applied for a license to the SHAKESPEARE INN, Brickkiln Street, Portobello, on behalf of Mr. George Davis, the occupant. The population around this house had considerably increased, and not a single spirit license had been granted in this neighbourhood for eight or ten years. At the present time there were only three licensed houses in the locality. Mr. Manby opposed the application for the old licensed innkeepers of the neighbourhood, on the ground that there was no necessity for another license being granted, there being already four licensed houses in the same locality....

Mr. Whitehouse next made application on behalf of Mr. *W. Perry*, of the RED LION, situated immediately opposite the house for a license to which application had just been made. The Premises were extensive, and were rated at £27 or £28. The application was opposed by Mr. Manby, on behalf of the same parties as those by whom he was instructed in the previous case, and on similar grounds. According to his instructions Mr. *Perry* was only rated at £16. Refused."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/9/1854

"*William Perry*, of the RED LION, Portobello, was brought before R. D. Gough, Esq., on Thursday, charged by Robert Fox, butty miner, with stealing a horse. Mr. Shipman prosecuted, and Mr. Whitehouse was retained for the defence. A number of witnesses were examined, but the facts of the case appeared to be these: The complainant and a man named Bumford worked a pit, belonging to Messrs. Rose and Brown. Fox borrowed £7 from the accused to buy a horse, which he sold at Wolverhampton, and purchased another. Bumford, finding that complainant was taking the lion's share of the profits, and that he was likely to lose £3 5s which he had advanced to buy tools for working the pit, went, accompanied by *Perry*, and took away the horse from the gin. The Magistrate said such a charge should never have been brought before him, and at once dismissed that complaint."

Staffordshire Sentinel 30/8/1856

"*William Perry*, landlord of the RED LION beerhouse, Portobello, was summoned for selling ale in a booth on the racecourse, on Sunday, the 10th instant.

Mr. Whitehouse appeared for the defendant, and Mr. Bartlett was retained to watch the proceedings on behalf of one Roberts, who, as it proved in the sequel, was on this occasion to appear in two characters – witness and defendant.

The first witness was Police-constable Colenzo, who stated that, about four o'clock on the afternoon of the 10th, he entered a booth upon which there was no name, and found twenty-nine men there drinking ale. The waiters said that Robert Roberts was the owner of the booth. Roberts appeared before the magistrates on the previous Saturday, and denied that the booth was his. Witness saw Roberts taking down the booth on the Thursday after the races.

Police-constable Green confirmed this statement, and added that one of the waiters told him that Roberts was selling under the license of a man named Onions, and hoped the police would not notice the case, as Roberts was a poor man. On the Thursday the witness saw on the outside of the booth a piece of canvas, on which was painted '*W. Perry*, RED LION, Portobello.'

Robert Roberts was then examined, and said that, on the Sunday in question, he had left two boys in charge of the booth, with an injunction not to draw any ale in his absence; but when he returned he found that the police had detected some persons drinking. He himself had put the booth up, and paid Price 10s for it; but the ale that was sold was Mr. *Perry*'s. He did not see either Mr. or Mrs. *Perry* or anyone representing them in the booth, selling ale but himself; but on one of the race days he saw Mrs. *Perry* selling ale from a barrel on the course, not far from the booth. He acted entirely as servant of Mr. *Perry*. On the race days he received the money for the ale, and handed it over to Mrs. *Perry*. The boys did not give him any money for the ale that was sold on the Sunday. On his cross-examination by Mr. Whitehouse for the defendant, the witness said he had had altogether two barrels of ale for the course, for which he was to pay £2 10s. He got the license from Mrs. *Perry*, with directions to sell in her name. He could not mention the name of any one who was present when Mrs. *Perry* was selling ale on the course. Mrs. *Perry*'s daughter gave him the license when he applied for it, but he had previously got authority to obtain it. On being asked whether he actually had ever paid Mrs. *Perry* for the ale, the witness, after a good deal of suspicious shuffling, said he had paid £2 2s.

At this stage the magistrates dismissed that case, and Roberts himself was charged with the offence of selling ale without a license. Mr. Bartlett admitted the sale, but directed his client to plead not guilty.

Catherine *Perry* having been examined in support of the case, Mr. Bartlett then addressed the magistrates, and contended that inasmuch as the penalty sought to be recovered was an excise one, none but an officer of the Board of Inland Revenue could legally lay the information. He had ascertained this at the excise office, and had likewise written to the board in London on the subject. The magistrates had, the preceding week, expressed an intention to recommend a mitigation of some penalties they had inflicted in other cases, but the board in London could not intervene, for they had no power over penalties obtained by police officers. He had prepared a memorial to the board, which would be signed by parties who had been convicted the previous week, and for whom he was interested, and he suggested that the present information should stand over until an answer was received.

The Bench intimated that they were inclined to proceed.

Mr. Bartlett: On the excise law? – Mr. Owen, the magistrates' clerk, referred in support of the proceedings by the police, to the 8th Geo. VI., section 11, chap. 81, and said that Mr. Leigh and the other magistrates were constantly in the habit of adjudicating upon informations laid by the police.

Roberts was then fined £5 and costs, and was told that the magistrates would support a memorial to the Board of Excise for the reduction of the penalty to 40s."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/7/1858

"On Monday and yesterday (Tuesday), the members of the following societies partook of their annual feasts at the inns at Willenhall or Portobello, where they respectively hold their meetings, namely the Independent Order of Oddfellows, Willenhall Unity, at the RED LION."

1861 Census

25, Brick Kiln Street – RED LION

- [1] Hannah Bradley (26), unmarried, barmaid, born Bilston;
- [2] Thomas Bradley (14), brother, grocer's shopman, born Bilston;
- [3] Elizabeth Bradley (12), sister, scholar, born Bilston:

1871 Census

24, Brick Kiln Street

- [1] *Samuel Oliver* (49), blacksmith and beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] Emma Oliver (50), wife, born Shropshire;
- [3] William Oliver (13), son, born Willenhall:

Samuel Oliver, beer retailer and blacksmith, Brickkiln Street, Portobello. [1872]

1881 Census

46, Brick Kiln Street, Portobello – RED LION

- [1] *Samuel Oliver* (59), blacksmith, born Birmingham;
- [2] Emma Oliver (62), wife, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [3] Emma Jane Oliver (12), granddaughter, scholar, born Portobello;
- [4] Thomas Oliver (7), grandson, scholar, born Portobello;
- [5] Mary Dogerty (20), general servant, born Broseley, Shropshire:

1901 Census

46, Brickkiln Street – LION INN

- [1] *Samuel Carless* (53), beerhouse keeper, born Essington, Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Ellen Carless (51), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] William J. Carless (23), son, wheelwright, born Portobello;
- [4] Byrth Carless (21), son, brass worker, born Portobello;
- [5] Emma Carless (18), daughter, born Portobello;
- [6] Mabel Carless (16), daughter, born Portobello;
- [7] Olive Carless (14), daughter, born Moseley Village;
- [8] George A. Carless (11), son, born Willenhall;
- [9] John T. R. Carless (9), son, born Willenhall:

Samuel Carless, beer retailer, Brickkiln Street, Portobello. [1904]

1911 Census

45+46, Brickkiln Street

- [1] *Frederick William Burrows* (32), beer retailer, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ann Elizabeth Burrows (32), wife, married 14 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] Elizabeth Maud Burrows (10), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] George Augustus Sheldon (53), relative, widower, mineral water manufacturer, born Smethwick;
- [4] Henry James Burrows (71), relative, butcher (pensioner), born Willenhall;
- [5] Annie Pritchard (15), servant;
- [6] Maud Elizabeth Sheldon (1), niece:

Frederick William Burrows, beer retailer, 46, Brickkiln Street, Portobello. [1912]

* probably the same person

Thomas H. Wall, beer retailer, 46, Brickkiln Street, Portobello. [1932]

1939 Register

Brickkiln Street – RED LION (3 of 4)

[1] *Sydney Alexander*, date of birth 2/2/1907, licensee, shearer, nut and bolt trade, married;

[2] Gladys Alexander, dob 18/10/1905, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Elsie M. Alexander, dob 7/1/1932, at school, single;

Closed

RED LION

Bridge Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Davies [1828] – [1830]

RING O'BELLS

9, (18), John Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

Pommy Kang [2014], [2016]

LICENSEES

Stephen Pitt [1845] – [1851]

George Perks [1859] – [1871]

Ann Perks [1881] – [1891]

Thomas Adams [1901] – [1904]

Harold Eccleston [1911]

Cornelius Hall [1912]

H C Green* [1932]

Horace G Green* [1933] – [1940]

Michael Powis [1986]

Barry Maxwell [1993]

Alan Massey [2007]

Stuart Mathis (2011 – 2012)

Adrian Worley [2014] – [2016]

Deborah Brown [2019] manager

NOTES

18, John Street [1871]

9, John Street [1881], [1891],

[1901], [1904], [1911], [1912], [1932]

RING OF BELLS [1846], [1847], [1881]

It had a beerhouse license.

1841 Census

John Street

- [1] *Stephen Pitt* (46), locksmith, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Pitt* (40), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Ann Pitt* (15), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Stephen Pitt* (9), son, born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Betsy Pitt* (8 months), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [6] *George Lathe* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [7] *John Price* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [8] *Emma Buckley* (11), born Staffordshire:

Ann Pitt married *George Perks* in the 2nd quarter of 1844.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/10/1845

“*Thomas Manley* of Newcastle states in reply to *Gough’s* (of Darlaston) challenge, that he will run him 130 yards, for £25 a side, and start by report of a pistol, between home and home, in six weeks after the match is made. The money is ready at *Stephen Pitt’s*, the RING O’BELLS, Willenhall, Staffordshire.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 4/1/1846

“*Meyrick* and *Birch*. This match is still going on, and the final deposit is to be made on Saturday next, at *Stephen Pitt’s*, the RING OF BELLS, Willenhall. It is *Robert*, not *Thomas Birch*, as given last week.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/5/1846

“*Thomas Hill* wishes to run *Thomas Mason* five score yards, for £5 a side. Money ready at *Stephen Pitt’s*, the RING OF BELLS, Willenhall, tomorrow (Monday) night.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 8/8/1847

“The quarter of a mile race between *Edward Crumpton* of Wednesfield Heath and *William Howes* of Walsall, the latter staking £13 to £10, came off at the Pleck, near the Bescott Bridge Railway Station, on Monday week. The betting was 6 to 4 on *Howes*, who was accompanied to the score by *Jones* of Bloxwich. They got off very well, and ran level for three score yards, after which *Crompton* went to the fore, maintained his advantage to the end, and won by twenty yards. The winner was in good condition having been prepared by *Mr. Pitt* of the RING OF BELLS, Willenhall. The money was given up the same night at the Mill House, Wednesfield Heath, near Wolverhampton.”

1851 Census

John Street

- [1] *Stephen Pitt* (56), locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Pitt* (50), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Stephen Pitt* (19), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Betsy Pitt* (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Acton Perks* (9), grandson, scholar, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/1/1859

“At the Police Court, on Monday last, *Mary Harper*, an elderly woman of methodistical appearance, who during her examination gave vent to her feelings in some very unmusical groans, was charged with stealing two smoothing irons, the property of *George Perks*, the RING O’ BELLS, John Street. *Mrs. Perks* stated that the prisoner came to their house on Thursday week last, and pleading poverty, asked to be allowed to sit in the kitchen for a short time, saying she had walked from Birmingham that day. The prisoner had a basket on her arm. She remained in the house for some time, and left rather hurriedly. As soon as she had gone the irons were missed out of the ovens, and *Mrs. Perks’s* sister followed in the direction she supposed the woman had taken, but could not meet with her. It was subsequently ascertained that the prisoner had about that time been to the shop of *Mr. Hitchcock* to purchase some potatoes, having a pair of irons in her basket of the same description as those which had been stolen. From the description of the woman given by *Mrs. Hitchcock*, *Police-constable Aldritt*, in company with *Mrs. Perks’s* sister, went to prisoner’s house, and found the basket with the potatoes in it, but not the irons. *Mrs. Hitchcock* was put into the witness box, and swore positively that the prisoner was the woman who came to her house for some potatoes, and that she had the irons in the basket at the time. *Mr. Waterhouse*, who was engaged for the defence, maintained that it was a case of mistaken identity, and called a woman named *Alice Baker*, who said that on the afternoon of the day in question an old woman known in Willenhall as ‘*Old Mother Bunting*’ came to her house, and producing two sad irons asked her to take them to *Atkins’s*, the pawnbroker’s. Witness, knowing the character of this ‘*Old Mother Bunting*’ went across to the pawnbroker’s, and stated what she had got, and whom they belonged to, when the pawnbroker’s assistant refused to advance anything upon them. She also said that she had been to the RING OF BELLS for half a pint of ale. The old woman further told the witness that she had a blind daughter in Birmingham, and had received a letter from her. She had a bundle of letters with her, but no basket. A young girl who was in the prisoner’s house at the time she returned home swore that, when the prisoner came in, she deposited a basket containing some potatoes and the prisoner’s gin bottle. She had not been in the house more than three or four minutes before the police officer came in. *Atkins*, the pawnbroker, was called, and said he recollected the witness *Alice Baker* coming to his house on Thursday week with a pair of

irons. He refused to take them in, as he did not receive such articles as pledges. He did not remember her saying anything about 'Old Mother Bunting', nor did he know such a person. Mrs. Hitchcock was recalled, and swore that the basket produced was the same as that which the prisoner had with her when she came into her shop. The girl who had given evidence on the prisoner's behalf also swore that the basket was the one which the prisoner brought home with her. Mr. Williams, a butty collier, stated that he had known the prisoner for fourteen years, and believed her to be an honest, industrious woman. The Magistrates considered that there was such a balance of testimony that they would not be justified in dismissing the case. The prisoner was accordingly bound over to answer the charge if called upon."

Sporting Life 11/7/1860

"T. Clahan, of Willenhall, will run D. Onions, of the New Invention, 100 or 120 yards, for £5 or £10 a side, at Aston Cross Grounds, Birmingham, in one month from the first deposit; or he will run Morris, of Darlaston, on the same terms. Money ready any night this week at the RING O' BELLS, John Street, Willenhall."

1861 Census

John Street

- [1] *George Perks* (37), tailor and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Ann Perks* (35), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Acton Perks* (19), son, tailor, born Willenhall;
- [4] *George Perks* (14), son, tailor, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Albert Perks* (6), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Arthur Perks* (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *William Chatterton* (56), lodger, tailor, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Mary Chatterton* (60), wife, born Willenhall:

George Perks, retailer of beer, John Street. [1862]

1871 Census

18, John Street

- [1] *George Perks* (47), tailor, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Ann Perks* (45), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Acton Perks* (28), son, tailor, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Charles Perks* (21), son, rimlock maker, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Albert Perks* (16), son, jobbing smith, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Arthur Perks* (12), son, errand boy, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Henry C. Perks* (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *John Steel* (31), lodger, rimlock maker, born Compton;
- [9] *Jane Steel* (24), lodger, born Wellesbourne, Warwickshire;
- [10] *Mary A. Steel* (4), lodger, born Willenhall;
- [11] *Harriet Steel* (8 months), lodger, born Willenhall;
- [12] *Phebe Hill* (14), general servant, born Willenhall:

1881 Census

9, John Street – RING OF BELLS INN

- [1] *Ann Perks* (55), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Acton Perks* (38), son, tailor, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Henry C. Perks* (15), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Mary A. Perks* (13), granddaughter, scholar, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

9, John Street

- [1] *Ann Perks* (66), widow, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Acton Perks* (46), son, tailor, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Harry C. Perks* (25), son, professor of music, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Ann Smith* (14), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/10/1894

"Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) resumed the enquiry, yesterday, at the RING O' BELLS INN, John Street, Willenhall, into the cause of death of John Hollowood (48), a file-cutter, who died, under circumstances already reported, on Wednesday morning. Mr. J. T. Hartill, who had made a post-mortem examination, stated that death was due to apoplexy, the result of long-standing disease of the liver, heart, and brain, spleen and kidneys, all due to chronic lead-poisoning. At the previous enquiry it was stated that lead blocks or pads were used in the process of file-cutting, but the witness said he had very little experience of file-cutting. The poisoning would be very likely the result of absorption rather than of inhalation.

Mr. C. C. W. Hoare (inspector of factories) said a file-cutter when at work leaned over a lead block, and he might inhale an infinitesimal quantity of dust, but he did not think respirators would be of much use. File-cutters were not dirty looking as a rule.

Mr. Hartill said there must be a number of file-cutters in the town, but he had never heard of a single case of poisoning in the trade before.

Mr. Hoare remarked that he had known of several cases of file-cutters being in the Wolverhampton Hospital, but in almost every case the symptoms were those of poisoning by absorption rather than inhalation. The continual handling of lead paralysed the arms.

Mr. Hartill said he had been in practice in Willenhall for twenty-five years, but had never come across such a case before.

William Hollowood, of 58, Lower Lichfield Street, brother of the deceased, and a file-cutter, said the deceased had worked for him, and had suffered from lead-poisoning for about ten years. He had attended Wolverhampton Hospital, and had been advised to wash his hands and brush his nails before eating his meals, but he had been very neglectful in such matters. Witness had never had a case of lead-poisoning on his works before, but he had heard of a file-cutter suffering from the disease.

Mr. Hoare said that the washing of the hands and the face before leaving the shops should be insisted upon, and acid drinks should be supplied.

A verdict was returned that death had resulted from lead-poisoning.”

1901 Census

9, John Street

[1] *Thomas Adams* (61), beerhouse keeper, born Bloxwich;

[2] *Ann Adams* (65), wife, born Bilston;

[3] *Ada Hitch* (18), general servant, born Willenhall:

Thomas Adams, beer retailer, 9, John Street. [1904]

1911 Census

9, John Street – RING O’ BELLS

[1] *Harold Eccleston* (28), brass finisher and licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] *Emily Eccleston* (26), wife, married 5 years, born Willenhall;

[3] *Ivy Eccleston* (4), daughter, born Tividale;

[4] *Clara Eccleston* (2), daughter, born Willenhall:

Cornelius Hall, beer retailer, 9, John Street. [1912]

H. C. Green, beer retailer, 9, John Street. [1932]

* possibly the same person

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/9/1933

“Mr. and Mrs. William Green, of Wheatenhurst, High Heath, Pelsall, celebrated their diamond wedding on Friday Mr. Green’s other sons are Mr. *H. G. Green*, licensee of the RING O’BELLS, Willenhall, and an engineer by profession....”

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

It was refurbished in the early 1980s.

Adrian Worley was married to Julie.

Express & Star 6/5/2019

“Kevin Wilson, from Willenhall, is a regular at the RING O’ BELLS pub on John Street and is part of the darts team. He regularly spends his weekends in his local but throughout March he decided to put down the pints and pick up the soft drinks to raise money for Make-A-Wish Foundation. The 57-year-old raised £514 during March by taking donations from people in the pub and at work. Kevin said, ‘My stepson did dry January and I saw how much money he raised for Birmingham Children’s Hospital, and I thought I’d give it a go. I love a pint so it was hard, the wife didn’t think I could do it. But I walked into the pub on March 1, it was a Friday, I ordered a coke, saw the sweets from Make-A-Wish and decided I would raise the money for them. I did it for something worthwhile and that’s why I carried it on, otherwise I probably would have given up. I raised the money through word of mouth around work and the pub, I was really chuffed. It’s in the name, this money will help make wishes for the children, it’s wonderful. I’d be lying if I said it wasn’t hard, and I chose a month with five weekends, and I love my darts, but it was worth it for the kids.’

Deborah Brown, aged 45, pub manager at the RING O’ BELLS, said, ‘He plays in our darts team so he still had to come to the pub, which made it hard for him. It was difficult for him to have soft drinks while all his mates were on pints, it was about having a drink and relaxing but he couldn’t. I admire what he’s done, it’s a big achievement and £500 is a lot of money. We sell the Make-A-Wish sweets behind the bar, so it’s a worthy cause, we’re proud of him.’”

[2019]

RISING SUN

21, Mill Street / Birmingham Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1961]

LICENSEES

William Bird [1861]
William Rowley [1868] – [1871]
James Turner [] – **1881**;
Charles Fowke (**1881** – []
James Peter Hall [1891]
Joseph Goodwin [1901]
Mrs. Frances Eliza Goodwin [1904]
William Lyster [1911] – [1912]
C Trethouen [1932]
John Sutcliffe Greenwood [1940]
George Hammond [1961]

NOTES

1861 Census

Mill Street – Public House

[1] *William Bird* (37), cabinet key maker, born Walsall;

[2] Ann Bird (39), wife, born Dudley:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 29/2/1868

“C. Cooper of New Invention will take one yard in 100 of Fellows of Willenhall; or G. Haines of the same place; or will take one yard of Sam Hodgkiss of Can lane. Either match to come off at the Aston Cross Grounds, for £5 or £19 a side. Money ready at *W. Rowley's*, RISING SUN, Mill Street, Willenhall.”

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

“Cooper of Willenhall not being satisfied with his late race with Walker, will make another match to run him 100 yards, for £10 a side. Money ready at *W. Rowley's*, the RISING SUN, Mill Street, Willenhall.”

1871 Census

Mill Street

[1] *William Rowley* (26), padlocksmith, born Willenhall;

[2] Ann Rowley (35), wife, born Darlaston;

[3] George Rowley (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[4] Louisa Rowley (1), daughter, born Willenhall;

[5] Betsy Eynon (17), general servant, born Wolverhampton;

[6] George Hall (32), boarder, moulder (iron puddler), born Darlaston:

1881 Census

21, Mill Street – RISING SUN

[1] *James Turner* (43), locksmith and publican, born Willenhall;

[2] Eliza Turner (41), wife, born Compton;

[3] Emily J. Turner (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[4] Sarah A. Turner (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] Fanny Turner (4), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] Florence Turner (2), daughter, born Willenhall;

[7] Louisa A. Johnson (18), general servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 6/12/1881

“At the County Police Court, yesterday, the following licenses were fully transferred.

the certificate of *James Turner*, Mill Street, Willenhall, to *Charles Fowke*, latch manufacturer.”

1891 Census

Mill Street – RISING SUN

- [1] *James Peter Hall* (25), coal merchant and victualler, born St. Just, Cornwall;
- [2] *Emily Elizabeth Hall* (24), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Alfred Hall* (1), son, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

21, Mill Street – RISING SUN TAVERN

- [1] *Joseph Goodwin* (40), house decorator, born Bolton, Lancashire;
- [2] *Frances Goodwin* (34), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Lawrence Goodwin* (13), son, schoolboy, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Aliver (?) V. Goodwin* (10), daughter, schoolgirl, born Bilston;
- [5] *E ____ (?) ____ (?)* (74), visitor, own means, born Bilston;
- [6] *James Corley* (32), boarder, cycle fitter, born Bilston;
- [7] *Elizabeth Hume* (18), general servant, born Tipton:

Mrs. Frances Eliza Goodwin, beer retailer, Mill Street. [1904]

1911 Census

21, Mill Street – RISING SUN

- [1] *William Lyster* (48), beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Elizabeth Lyster* (47), wife, married 26 years, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Walter Taylor* (26), son in law, locksmith (rim and iron locks), born Willenhall;
- [4] *Amy Elizabeth Taylor* (22), daughter, married, born Handsworth;
- [5] *Raymond Taylor* (2 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Mary Green* (69), aunt, widow, nurse, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *Florence Morgan* (14), servant, born Willenhall:

William Lyster, beer retailer, Mill Street. [1912]

C. Trethouen, beer retailer, 21, Mill Street. [1932]

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/4/1952

“When the licensee of the RISING SUN INN, Willenhall, returned with a packet of cigarettes she had been out to buy for a customer, she found him standing behind the bar attempting to steal money from the till. This was stated at Stafford on Monday, when a Staffs. Quarter Sessions Appeal Committee sentenced *William Colbourne* (28), Garden Walk, the Lunt, Bilston, to three years’ corrective training.

Colbourne was sent to the committee for sentence after being convicted by Willenhall Magistrates of attempted larceny. In a statement he said he was sorry for what he had done but at the time of the offence he was drunk.

Pc W. J. Evans said that *Colbourne* had seven previous convictions, two of them as a juvenile.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 3/6/1961 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1953. Notice of Principal Meeting County of Stafford.

Notice is Hereby Given that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held in the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Wednesday the 21st day of June, 1961, at 11 o’clock am.

And Notice is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the renewal of the licenses of the premises specified in the subjoined list, all those persons to whom under the Licensing Act, 1953, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard; that is to say, the persons interested in any licensed premises in question and, unless it appears to the Compensation Authority unnecessary, any other persons appearing to them to be interested in the question of the renewal of the license of those premises (including the Justices of the Licensing District). List of Licensed Premises.....

RISING SUN, Mill Street, Willenhall. Beerhouse (Ante 1869). Licensee, *George Hammond*.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 1/7/1961 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1953. County of Stafford.

Notice is Hereby Given that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 21st day of June, 1961, to refuse the Renew of the Licenses of the premises specified below, all persons claiming to be interested in the said premises for the purpose of payment of the compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensees and the Registered Owners of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority notice of their claims before the 22nd day of July, 1961, for the purpose of enabling the Compensation Authority to ascertain in the manner provided by the Licensing Rules, 1910, the persons entitled to compensation under the said Act in respect of the said premises.....

RISING SUN, Mill Street, Willenhall. Beerhouse (ante 1869). Licensee, *George Hammond*. Registered Owners, *W. Butler & Co. Ltd.*”

Closed

ROBIN HOOD

34, (27 and 28), The Crescent, Shepwell Green, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.
Admiral Taverns [2007]
Black Country Traditional Inns [2011]

LICENSEES

William Simcock* [1861] – [1872]
William Simcox* [1871] – [1881]
William Turner [1891]
Lewis Palmerston Ashcroft [1892]
Henry J Hamilton [1896]
John Nicholls Snr. (1898 – 1902)
William Booker [1904] – [1916]
Isaiah Jones [1921]
J Llewelyn [1932]
Ernest Claridge [1940]
Kenny Webster [1960s]
M Healey [1976]
Tony Hallam (1982 – 1996);
Bob Hutton (1996 – [1997])
David Andrew Gilbert [2003] – [2007]
Gary Lloyd (2010 – [2011])

NOTES

27+28, Crescent [1881]
34, The Crescent [1932], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

* *William Simcock* = William Simcox

1861 Census

Crescent

- [1] *William Simcock* (42), publican and grocer, born Sutton, Cheshire;
- [2] Catherine Simcock (40), wife, born Sutton, Cheshire;
- [3] Mary Simcock (15), daughter, scholar, born Frodsham, Cheshire;
- [4] Margret Simcock (13), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] George Simcock (9), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] John Liggins (50), boarder, widower, labourer, born Copson, Warwickshire;
- [7] Thomas Evans (26), boarder, miner, born Frodsham, Cheshire;

William Simcox, retailer of beer, Crescent. [1862]

William Simcock, beer retailer and shopkeeper, Crescent. [1864], [1868], [1870], [1872]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, in this county, was held on Friday, at the County Magistrates’ Room, Bilston Street. The Magistrates on the Bench were H. Hill, J. Perks, S. Cartwright, and B. Hicklin, Esqs.....

Mr. Underhill next applied for a license to the ROEBUCK INN beerhouse, situated at the Crescent on the road leading from Wil-

lenhall to Darlaston, and in the occupation of *William Simcox*. The house is opposite to a colliery, belonging to Messrs. Jeavons and Mitchell. The nearest licensed house to the one occupied by *Simcox* on the Willenhall side, was 319 yards away, whilst on the other side there was not one nearer than three-quarters of a mile. In addition to the ordinary testimonial, signed by gentlemen acquainted with the applicant, as to his good character and fitness to have a license entrusted to him, Mr. Underhill said he had pleasure in handing to the Bench a special one headed with the signatures of Messrs. Jeavons and Mitchell, setting forth that a licensed house was much required in that locality, for the use of the workers employed at the collieries and various large works that were springing up in that neighbourhood. There was no opposition.
Mr. Hill after conferring with his brother Magistrates, said all the applications were refused.”

1871 Census

71, The Crescent – Public House – ROBIN HOOD & LITTLE JOHN

- [1] *William Simcox* (52), widower, publican (licensed victualler), born Sutton Runcorn, Cheshire;
- [2] *Mary Simcox* (25), daughter, born Frodsham, Cheshire;
- [3] *Margaret Simcox* (23), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Sarah Dailey* (18), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Thomas Ashbrook* (34), boarder, coal miner, born Bradley, Cheshire:

Midland Counties Evening Express 28/11/1874

“On Saturday last, a complimentary dinner was given to Mr. J. N. Hall, late manager of the goods department of the Darlaston and Willenhall section of the London and North Western Railway Company, at Mr. *Willcock*'s ROBIN HOOD INN. About 40 sat down to a sumptuous repast.”

1881 Census

27+28, Crescent – ROBIN HOOD

- [1] *William Simcox* (62), licensed victualler, born Sutton, Cheshire;
- [2] *Mary Kelly* (35), widow, daughter, house keeper, born Frodsham, Cheshire;
- [3] *Mary A. Washbrook* (17), general servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

The Crescent – ROBIN HOOD INN

- [1] *William Turner* (31), victualler, born Newport, Shropshire;
- [2] *Mary A. Turner* (27), wife, born Stone;
- [3] *James O. Turner* (6), son, born Stone;
- [4] *William Turner* (5), son, born Longdon, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Ernest Turner* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Harry Turner* (1), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Ann Austin* (62), aunt, widow, born Stone:

Preston Herald 1/8/1891

“The Failure of Mr. *William Ashcroft*.

At the London Bankruptcy Court, on Wednesday, a sitting was held for the public examination of *William Ashcroft*, brewer, etc, formerly trading at Walsall, Blackburn, Manchester, and Birmingham, who applied to pass upon accounts showing total liabilities £23,925 16s 3d, of which £5,093 are expected to rank against assets valued at £2,628 3s 4d.

In 1888 he went to Walsall, and traded there up to last July. He became acquainted with Mr. *Robson*, of Burton, a brewer, and took the BRITANNIA at West Bromwich, the Old Port Hotel at Landport, the OAK TREE at Darlaston. He also had the ROBIN HOOD at Willenhall, and the LION at Dudley. He surrendered Mr. *Robson*'s houses last December, and has since given up the others. He paid nothing to go into the houses, being put in on the understanding that he was to eventually pay for the loose effects. At present he had no interest in those houses, but his wife was acting as manageress for Mr. *Robson* at the Old Port Hotel, and his son had arranged to work the ROBIN HOOD. When he left Walsall to come to London his creditors knew where he was going.

Eventually the examination was adjourned for further accounts.”

1901 Census

The Crescent – ROBIN HOOD

- [1] *John Nicholls* (27), public house manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Eliza Nicholls* (26), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Elizabeth G. Nicholls* (4), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Rose Stanley* (20), servant, born Fenton, Staffordshire:

John Nicholls Snr. – see also COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Darlaston, BRADES TAVERN, Oldbury, and PRINCE OF WALES, New Invention.

It had a sports ground attached. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 1/8/1908

“Mr. Stokes (Coroner) held an inquiry at the ROBIN HOOD INN, Crescent Road, on Tuesday, concerning the death of Thomas Jones (36), better known as ‘Dangy’, a bricklayer’s labourer, of Portobello. Deceased was found hanging by a rope round the neck to some railings in Crescent Road. Four years ago deceased was sent to the asylum at Stafford after attempting to hang himself, and he had been strange in his habits of late. A verdict of Suicide during Temporary Insanity was returned.”

1911 Census

The Crescent – ROBIN HOOD

- [1] *William Booker* (64), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] Elizabeth Booker (63), wife, married 48 years, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Maud Booker (20), daughter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] Hannah Forrester (19), niece, born Bloxwich:

William Booker – check also RED LION, Bloxwich.

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

Tony Hallam was married to Margaret.

It was Walsall CAMRA Pub of the Year in 1989, 1990, and 1991.

Sandwell Evening Mail 6/2/1992

“Cheers! Licensees *Tony* and Margaret *Hallam* raise a glass to celebrate a notable hat trick for their pub, the ROBIN HOOD. The popular Willenhall watering hole has been chosen as the Walsall CAMRA branch pub of the year for the third time in succession. It is the first pub to win the title three times consecutively and *Tony* and Margaret will be now allowed to keep the Pub of the Year Shield.

Walsall CAMRA branch spokesman David Irvine said, ‘They have done really well to win it three times and naturally *Tony* and Margaret are delighted.’ He said they consistently served up top quality traditional beer and the pub ‘has a warm and very friendly traditional pub atmosphere and everyone is made to feel part of a big happy family,’ he added.”

Closed

It was refurbished in 1993.

Reopened

Bob Hutton was married to Anita.

It had an archery club. [1997], [1998]

It reopened as a Black Country house on 18th August 2010.

Gary Lloyd was married to Linda.

Express & Star 19/3/2021

“A real ale pub in Willenhall hit by the Covid lockdown has been handed a boost with its refurbishment plans finally given the go-ahead. The ROBIN HOOD, in The Crescent, will see its public bar extended, along with other improvements including a new canopy over an outside seating area, enhanced porch entrance and disabled toilets. Owners Black Country Traditional Inns had originally put the application with Walsall Council planners in 2019 but finally got approval this week after overcoming objections raised. Bosses said the changes will give the ‘important community facility’ the ability to improve its situation in the current climate. Among the concerns from neighbouring residents were a potential loss of a public right of way, proximity of the beer garden to their homes and impact on trees and wildlife. But the company addressed concerns to allay fears and the proposal has now been supported by planning officers. When the application was first submitted in April 2019, agents Maple Design said the ROBIN HOOD is operated as a traditional pub serving real ales. They said, ‘Our clients are a successful real ale pub company and carry out renovations to run down/closed public houses throughout the Black Country. This property was saved some years ago and is now a successful outlet following several internal refurbishments and upgrades.....”

[2021]

ROLLING MILL

Spring Bank, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Charles Davies [1881]

NOTES

It was situated opposite the colliery.

Several clubs operated from here.

ROSE AND CROWN

Dilloways Lane, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Williams [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Dilloways [sic] Lane – ROSE AND CROWN

[1] *Thomas Williams* (59), married, stone miner, born Madley [Madeley], Shropshire;

[2] *Martha Williams* (18), daughter, house servant, born Willenhall;

[3] *Jeremiah Williams* (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

[Thomas's wife was visiting friends.]

ROSE AND CROWN

29, Wolverhampton Street, [Portabello](#), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Wall [1858] – [1859]

David Brindley [1860] – [\[1862\]](#)

[Williams](#) [\[1862\]](#)

William Taylor [1890] – [\[1896\]](#)

William Halldron [1901]

Elizabeth Mayer [1911]

John Chilton [\[1916\]](#)

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/5/1858](#)

“*Wall v. Jones*. This case was tried at the County Court on Friday last, before Mr. Sejeant Clarke and a jury. The action was brought by *William Wall*, publican, of Willenhall, against Richard Jones, grocer and provision dealer, of the same place. The damages were laid at £50. Mr. James Walker appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Motteram, instructed by Mr. H. F. Fluck, solicitor, appeared for the defendant. Mr. Walker, in opening the case, stated that the complainant was the landlord of the ROSE AND CROWN public house, at Willenhall. On the morning of Friday, the 9th of April, the defendant, accompanied by three policemen, went to plaintiff’s house respecting a false charge that complainant had stolen property concealed therein. The complainant thought it very strange that that inquiry should be made, but knowing the power possessed by the police did not resist their authority. The superintendent of police locked the door of the house and put the key into his pocket, no person being allowed to enter the house. After the defendant, assisted by the police, had ransacked the house they returned to the bar, when the complainant again demanded to know the meaning of their conduct. The defendant then said they had come to search for fourteen hams which had been stolen from his premises, having been informed that a man named George Brindley, who was lodging there, and Mrs. *Wall*, complainant’s mother, had been seen to convey the stolen property into complainant’s house. He (Mr. Walker) was prepared to show that George Brindley had on the night of the robbery retired to bed between seven and eight o’clock. The robbery was alleged to have taken place between eleven and twelve. The other person accused, Mrs. *Wall*, was a person sixty-five years of age, who from age and bodily infirmity never left her house. The defendant had no warrant authorising him to search complainant’s premises; and even if there had been a warrant it would be necessary for the defendant in the action to prove that a felony had been committed, and to show certain facts and circumstances leading them to suspect *Wall*. Since the charge had been made the complainant’s trade had considerably fallen off; his weekly receipts, which were formerly between three and four pounds, had now dwindled down to a few shillings.

Mr. Motteram contended that the case could not be proceeded with. His client, Mr. Jones, had, previous to instituting the search on the plaintiff’s premises, obtained a search warrant, which would protect him in the course he had pursued. Unfortunately for the defendant it gave him power only to search the premises of George Brindley and — *Wall*, the christian name being left out. The case was therefore proceeded with.

William Wall, the plaintiff, after deposing to some of the circumstances as described by Mr. Walker, stated that in the course of the search of the house the defendant and Inspector Thompson, one of the police-officers, went down the cellar and commenced turning the things about. He told them not to disturb one of the barrels which contained newly-brewed ale. They, however, upset it and spilt all the ale. None of the stolen property was found. In cross-examination witness denied that Inspector Thompson told him he had a warrant to search Brindley’s house, or that he replied that he was at liberty to make a search.

Eliza Somers, formerly a domestic at the ROSE AND CROWN, corroborated the evidence of the last witness.

Anne *Wall*, mother of the complainant, who stated she was sixty-six years of age, also corroborated the testimony.

Other witnesses were called and gave similar evidence.

Mr. Motteram, after commenting on the evidence, called Police Inspector Thompson, of Willenhall, who deposed that on the 9th of April he went to the plaintiff’s house. He saw complainant and asked for George Brindley. Complainant said he was not at home. He then produced his warrant, and stated that he had come to search for some stolen property. Complainant said you may search, you will find nothing here but what is my own property. Witness positively denied that any ale was split or that the girl Eliza Somers or any other female was in the cellar at the time of the search.

Mr. Jones, the defendant, was then examined, but his evidence was materially the same as that of Inspector Thompson.

His Honour, after briefly commenting on the informality of the warrant in blank, put the case to the jury, when they returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £15.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/4/1859

“On Wednesday morning a special sitting of the Justices, the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq, was held at the Police Office, for the purpose of adjudicating upon a number of cases under the Weights and Measures Act. The following is the result of the investigation, costs being granted in each case.....

William Wall, of the ROSE AND CROWN, Willenhall, against whom a previous conviction was proved, 10s.”

Sporting Life 24/10/1860

“T. Parker, of Willenhall, will run any of the following men either 100 or 120 yards level, for £10 or £15 a side. C. Cooper or E. Johnson (both of New Invention), or Mole or Tonkinson (both of Walsall), or J. Canlett, of Darlaston. Any of the matches can be made any time this week at *D. Brindley’s*, ROSE AND CROWN, Willenhall.”

1861 Census

Wolverhampton Street – Beer Shop

- [1] *David Brindley* (36), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Elizabeth Brindley* (33), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Thomas Brindley* (10), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Sarah Ann Brindley* (8), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *David Brindley* (6), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Sidney Brindley* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Elizabeth Brindley* (12 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Mary Darracott* (17), servant, born Shropshire;
- [9] *Elizabeth Pitt* (67), mother, widow, born Alcester;
- [10] *Thomas Wright* (17), keysmith apprentice, born Lichfield:

David Brindley, retailer of beer, Wolverhampton Street. [1862]

David Brindley – see also COCK, Walsall Street.

Birmingham Daily Post 10/6/1862

“On Monday, T. M. Phillips, Esq, held an inquest on the body of a girl, named Sarah Jones, aged eleven years, at Mr. *Williams*’s, the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Willenhall. Deceased, on the 30th ultimo, went with the breakfast of her father to a pit in the Crescent Colliery, and while putting the breakfast in the skip, the tackling caught her clothes and threw her down the pit. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Gazette 10/6/1862

“At the ROSE AND CROWN, Portabello, Willenhall, yesterday, T. M. Phillips, Esq, held an inquest on the body of Sarah Jones, aged 11 years, residing with her parents in Brick Kiln Street, Portobello.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/8/1890

“At the Police Court yesterday David Brindley (23), Knowles Row, Portobello, was fined 20s and costs for assaulting *William Taylor*, landlord of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, and 1s for refusing to quit.”

1901 Census

Wolverhampton Street – ROSE AND CROWN INN

- [1] *William Halldron* (35), beerhouse keeper and machine fitter, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Hanna Eliza Halldron* (34), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Albert Edward Halldron* (13), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Thomas Halldron* (9), son, born Enfield, Middlesex;
- [5] *Joe Halldron* (7), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *George Halldron* (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Emma Louisa Halldron* (1), daughter, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

Wolverhampton Street – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *Alfred Mayer* (28), boiler stoker, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Elizabeth Mayer* (27), wife, married 3 years, publican, born Princes End;
- [3] *Catherine Tudor* (72), visitor, born County Waterford, Ireland:

Closed

ROYAL ARTILLERY

42, (17), Lower Lichfield Street, (Leve Lane), (Leave Lane), (Lieve Lane), (Walsall Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

*Sarah Walton** [1818] – [1822]

*Sarah Walters** [1822]

John Fox [1828] – [1830]

Benjamin Gosling [1833] – [1835]

John Fox [1841] – [1842]

Mrs. Elizabeth Fox [1845] – [1850]

Isaiah Cartwright [1850] – **1852**;

Edward Baker (**1852** – **1854**);

John Jackson (**1854** – [1855])

John Rowley [1856] – [1870]

George Large [1871] – **1873**);

Charles Alexander (**1873** – [1874])

William Bird [1875] – [1877]

William James Siddons Hooke [] – **1881**);

William Sharman (**1881** – [])

John P Izon (**1882** – [])

Benjamin Gosling [1892]
William W Neesham [1896]
William Marston [1901]
Robert McGill [1904]
William Challinor [1908]
Albert Knight [1909]
William Turner [1911] – [1912]
Isaiah Clark [1916] – [1921]
Philip Blundell [1932]

NOTES

Lieve Lane [1828]
Leave Lane [1833], [1849], [1850]
Leve Lane [1846], [1850]
Walsall Street [1835]
Lower Lichfield Street [1860]
17, Lower Lichfield Street [1871]
42, Lower Lichfield Street [1881], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1932]
42, Lichfield Street [1937]

ARTILLERY [1853], [1881]

*probably the same person

Benjamin Gosling = Benjamin Gesling

Benjamin Gosling was also a locksmith. [1833]

1841 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *John Fox* (50), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Fox* (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Sarah Payne (3), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Mary Brant (18), born Staffordshire:

Birmingham Journal 10/1/1846 - Advert

“Important Sale of Land, Messuages, and Hereditaments, at Willenhall, in the County of Stafford.

To Be Sold by Auction, by John Mason, on Friday, the 30th day of January inst.

Lot 75. All that well-accustomed Public House, known by the sign of the ROYAL ARTILLERY, situated in Leve Lane, in the occupation of Mrs. *Elizabeth Fox*, with the Shops, Piggeries, Garden Ground, and Appurtenances thereunto belonging; and also those Two small Dwelling House or Tenements adjoining.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/10/1850 - Advert

“Important Sale of Mines and Minerals, Land, Messuages, and Hereditaments, at Bentley and Willenhall, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction by John Mason, on Friday, the 18th day of October, 1850.

Lot XXIII. All that well-accustomed Public House, known by the name of the ROYAL ARTILLERY, situate in Leve Lane aforesaid, and in the occupation of Mr. *Isaiah Cartwright*, with the Shops, Piggeries, Garden Ground, and appurtenances thereto belonging; and also Two small Dwelling Houses adjoining, one of which is in the occupation of Leopold Allport and the other void; and also all those Three other Dwelling House and Garden Ground, eligibly situated, having a frontage of 14 yards to Church Street, one whereof is in the occupation of Mrs. Robinson and the others void.

The above lot including the sites of the said Dwelling Houses, contains 882 square yards.”

Staffordshire 14/6/1851

“On Wednesday last, at the Public Office four public-house keepers, viz., Stephen Oliver, Wolverhampton, Thomas Grainger, John Cotton, Portobello, and *Isaiah Cartwright*, Willenhall, were each convicted in the mitigated penalty of £50 for mixing grains of paradise in their brewings of ale. The defendants mostly pleaded ignorance of the fact, having entrusted the management to their servants. The Bench recommended the Board of Customs to further mitigate the penalties.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/3/1853

“Thomas Robinson, 33, was indicted for stealing a quantity of bacon, the property of Henry Gnossill, at Willenhall, on the 16th of February. It appeared that on the day in question the prisoner had purchased a quantity of bacon from a pork butcher in Wolver-

hampton. On his way home to Walsall at night he called at the ARTILLERY INN, in Willenhall, and remained some time, leaving his cart, containing the bacon, in the street, opposite the house, and while he remained there a quantity of the bacon was carried away. On a search being made by police, several pieces of bacon were found in a garden adjacent to the inn, and subsequently some bacon of a similar quality was found concealed in a pair of trousers in the grate in the prisoner's house, and a quantity more hidden in the chimney. A slice of bacon was also found in the prisoner's pocket.

Two or three witnesses deposed to seeing the prisoner and another man near to the prosecutor's cart, witness stating that they appeared to be carrying away a fitch of bacon. An assistant to the butcher from whom the bacon had been purchased proved that the pieces found in the garden and in the prisoner's house were of a similar quality to the bacon sold to the prosecutor, and a police-constable from Congleton, who had formerly been a butcher, fitted together the pieces found in the garden and those found in the prisoner's house, and said that in his opinion they had formed part of the same fitch.

Considerable amusement was excited by an ineffectual attempt of the Wolverhampton pork butcher to fit the pieces together; he being unable to say at which end of the fitch the ham had grown. When the prosecutor missed the bacon the prisoner admitted having taken it, but said he took it for a lark, and conducted the prosecutor to the garden where part of the bacon was afterwards found, and where he said it was hidden, but was unable to find it.

The prosecutor said he believed the prisoner did take the bacon for a lark, and without any intention of stealing it. The prisoner was drunk at the time.

The jury found the prisoner guilty and he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1856

"Applications for new licenses. There were fourteen applications altogether for licenses to sell spirits – all from beershop keepers – only four of which were granted by the Magistrates.

Mr. Hayes applied for *John Rowley*, Lichfield Street, Willenhall, stating that this application was more in the nature of a renewal of a license than a claim for a new one. Mr. *Rowley* had become the purchaser of the OLD ARTILLERY licensed public house, and finding it not suitable for a place of residence he resolved to pull it down and build a new one. This was done, not on the site of the old house but at some distance, and at a cost of between £700 and £800. The license of the old house had been discontinued. The population in the immediate neighbourhood had greatly increased of late.

Inspector Fiddler proved that a considerable number of new houses had been recently built in the neighbourhood, and during the six years that the applicant had conducted a beershop no complaint had been made against him.

In answer to a question from Mr. Underhill, who opposed the claim, the witness said that Mr. *Rowley's* house was about 150 yards from Mr. Porter's licensed house, about 200 yards from Mr. Pitts', and 250 from Mr. Hobson's. Two years ago an application had been made by another party, and two of the Magistrates had gone out to view the place, the result being that a license was granted to the proprietor of the MINERS ARMS. The Magistrates refused the application, but informed Mr. *Rowley* that he might apply at the Special Sessions for a renewal of the OLD ARTILLERY license."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/8/1858

"On Monday last, Lodge No.8 of Benevolent Loyal Britons, held their second anniversary meeting at Mr. *John Rowley's* ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, Lower Lichfield Street, when upwards of fifty of the members sat down and partook of an excellent dinner....."

Western Daily Press 13/10/1858

"On Saturday last an inquest was held before G. H. Hinchcliffe, Esq. (for Mr. Phillips), at Mr. *Rowley's* ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, Willenhall, on the body of Thomas Small, a miner, 34 years of age.

It appears that on the preceding Wednesday deceased was at work in a pit of Mr. Dimmock's, Linneford Colliery, when he met his death in the following shocking manner: -

He was employed in the gate road of the pit 'holing' some coals, when from two to three tons were detached, and falling upon Small, he was at once crushed to death. He was at work for the purpose of removing the coals in order to widen the gate road. The spot where he was was eight feet wide, and deceased had been cautioned by the doggy to put up another piece of timber, but he had forgotten to do so. A man who was at work near to deceased at the time of the accident not being in attendance the inquiry was adjourned."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/8/1859

"There are few small towns that possess so many provident societies, so well supported by the working classes, for whose benefit they are especially intended, as are to be found at Willenhall, a fact which must be considered as indicative of the frugal habits of the inhabitants. On Monday no fewer than five of these societies or clubs held their annual anniversaries....."

The Third Anniversary of the Lodge No.8 of Benevolent Loyal Britons (established 1856) was held at host *John Rowley's*, the ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, when upwards of fifty of the members sat down and partook of an excellent dinner, which was served in a superior style by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Rowley*. On the removal of the cloth, the chair was occupied by W. H. Hartill, Mr. Thomas Dandy officiating as vice. After the health of the Queen, Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal Family had been given and heartily responded to, the Chairman delivered a suitable address, exhorting them to fear God, to be benevolent not only in name but with hand and heart, and assist each other in sickness, observing that every member of the society, however poor, was safe when enrolled under its banners. He had medical assistance when in need of it, and, when it pleased God to take him away, he was saved the degradation of a pauper's funeral. The secretary, Reuben Brown, read over the society's accounts, which showed a saving of £83 6s 7d since the formation of the society."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/1/1860

“Local Board Of Health. The usual fortnightly meeting of this Board, was held on Monday.....

A plan for seven houses for Mr. Joshua Rowley, on the site of the OLD ARTILLERY INN, Leve Lane, was rejected, the Board being of opinion that there would be too many houses upon the ground.”

1861 Census

Lower Lichfield Street

[1] *John Rowley* (41), Publick House, born Willenhall;

[2] *Phebe Rowley* (38), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *John Rowley* (12), son, born Willenhall;

[4] *Ann Wright* (19), house servant, born Willenhall:

London Gazette 1/11/1861

“Whereas a Petition of *John Jackson*, at present and for four weeks now last past, residing at the Water Glade, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Key Smith, previously and for five years and eight months residing at the SEVEN STARS, Little London, Willenhall aforesaid, Retail Brewer, Dealer in Tobacco, and Key Smith, previously and for about one year and nine months residing at the ARTILLERY INN, Leave-lane, Willenhall aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, Retail Brewer, Dealer in Tobacco, and Key Smith, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at the Court-house, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *John Jackson*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *John Jackson* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 22nd day of November instant, at nine of the clock in the forenoon, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *John Jackson*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, in Queen-street, Wolverhampton, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

London Gazette 24/11/1863

“In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of *John Jackson*, formerly of the ARTILLERY INN, Leave-lane, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, Retail Brewer, Dealer in Tobacco, and Key Smith, afterwards of the SEVEN STARS, Little London, Willenhall, afterwards Retail Dealer in Tobacco and Key Smith, and now of the Water Glade, Willenhall aforesaid, Key Smith, a Bankrupt.

Whereas at a public sitting of the Court, held this day, the Court granted an Order of Discharge to the said bankrupt. Notice is hereby given, that an Order of Discharge will be drawn up and delivered to the said bankrupt, after the expiration of thirty days from this date, unless in the meantime, an appeal be duly entered against the judgment of the said Court.

Dated this 13th day of November, 1863.”

1871 Census

17, Lower Lichfield Street

[1] *George Large* (39), publican and founder employing 4 men and 5 boys, born Willenhall;

[2] *Louisa Large* (37), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *Mary Garner* (16), niece, born Willenhall;

[4] *Elizabeth Garner* (13), niece, born Willenhall;

[5] *George Garner* (20), nephew, caster in brass, born Willenhall;

[6] *John Gillis* (19), apprentice caster in brass, born Meridan [Meriden], Warwickshire;

[7] *Uniss Williams* (21), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

An inquest was held here in 1872.

George Large was also a general brassfounder of Wood Street. [1873], [1874]

Birmingham Daily Post 14/7/1874 - Advert

“Publicans and others. Wanted, a good free Public-House; bar trade preferred. Must bear the strictest investigation. Address, Mr. *Alexander*, ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, Willenhall.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 19/4/1875

“A young man named *Samuel Almond* was summoned for stealing a skylark, the property of *William Bird* of the ROYAL ARTILLERY public house, Lower Lichfield Street. Mr. Clark prosecuted, and Mr. Cresswell defended. It appeared that the prosecutor kept a caged skylark in his taproom, and on Tuesday night last about twenty minutes to eleven, he saw the bird safe. There were seven men in the house, including the defendant and a man named *John Smith*. Prosecutor went out for about a quarter of an hour, and on his return the men had gone out, and he missed the lark. *Smith* and *Almond* were the last two who left the house, and prosecutor followed *Smith* home. He afterwards took summonses against them, but he withdrew from the proceedings against *Smith* because he heard that *Almond* was left in the house five minutes after all the others.

Several witnesses were called, but none could speak of the actual taking away of the bird, and the case fell through, the Clerk to the justices remarking that the charge was entirely without foundation. Mr. Cresswell said the proceedings were most disgraceful,

and would result in action against the complainant for malicious prosecution.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 11/12/1877

“*William Bird*, landlord of the ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, Lower Lichfield Street, was summoned for permitting gambling on his premises on the 24th November. Mr. J. Clark appeared for the defendant, and Mr. Dallow, of Wolverhampton, watched the proceedings on behalf of the lessee of the premises.

The proceedings were taken in accordance with instructions given by Inspector Gasson, and from the evidence of two witnesses named John Smith and Samuel Robinson it appeared that on the night in question they were playing at a game known as ‘push penny,’ and one of the parties lost 10s. A dispute then arose and the police were called in.

The case having been proved, the defendant was fined £3 and the costs and his license endorsed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/6/1878

“An official paper which has just been issued gives the names of the registered trade unions, showing those which have, and those which have not, made returns according to law, and, with regard to the former, the amount of their funds on the 31st December, 1876, their income for that year, and the number of their members.....

Willenhall Operative Currycomb Makers’ Trade and Death Association, ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, Lower Lichfield, Willenhall, established February 17, 1876; no return.”

1881 Census

42, Lower Lichfield Street

- [1] *William J. S. Hooke* (29), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Mary A. A. W. Hooke* (27), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Horace E. Hooke* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Florence E. Hooke* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Mary O’Shaughnessy* (25), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/7/1881 - Advert

“For Sale. ROYAL ARTILLERY, Willenhall.

This noted house of business; capital brewing plant. Terms fair valuation.

Thomas Skidmore, 2, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.”

London Gazette 18/11/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *William Sharman*, formerly of the OLD TROOPERS INN, Harden, Bloxwich, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Farmer, but now of the ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, Lower Lichfield-street, Willenhall, in the said county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. William Waldron, Solicitor, No.17, High-street, Brierley Hill, in the county of Stafford, on the 1st day of December, 1881, at three o’clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 16th day of November, 1881.

William Waldron, 17, High-street, Brierley Hill, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

1901 Census

42, Lower Lichfield Street

- [1] *William Marston* (28), tailor and publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Kate Marston* (31), wife, born Leicester;
- [3] *Kate Rooney* (23), general servant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Josiah Marston* (29), boarder, night latch maker, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 12/6/1909

“At the Police Court on Monday, *Albert Knight*, landlord of the ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall, was charged with contravening the Swine Fever Order by disposing of a number of pigs purchased at the Great Barr stock sale on the 11th May within a less period than 28 days.

Supt. Pilliner said the Board of Agriculture regarded the offence as a serious one.

Evidence of the purchase and disposal of one of the pigs having been adduced, Inspector Beech said the discovery was only made by reason of a case swine fever on the defendant’s premises the week previous. The licence taken out for the removal of the pigs from the sale yard had not been given up as required by the provisions of the Order. It transpired that these pigs were removed to defendant’s premises two days before those affected with swine fever were removed.

Defendant was fined 40s and £1 0s 4d costs, Mr. Vaughan remarking that the case was more serious because defendant had swine fever on his premises.

Thomas Evans, butcher, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall, was then ordered to pay the cost for failing to deliver up the licence as soon as the removal of the pigs had been completed, as required by the Order.”

1911 Census

Lower Lichfield Street – ROYAL ARTILLERY

[1] *William Turner* (43), publican, born Bushbury;

[2] *Elizabeth Gertrude Turner* (48), wife, married 11 years, assisting in the business, born Wednesfield;

[3] *Amy Edwards* (23), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Walsall Observer 18/10/1924

“Whilst in conversation in the bar of the ARTILLERY INN, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall, on Saturday evening, a newsagent named *Samuel Harrison* (53), who had been lodging at Willenhall Street, Darlaston, suddenly collapsed and died.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/5/1937

“County justices attending a meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Confirmation Committee at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday, had to deal with the heaviest agenda for many years.....

Other license removals confirmed were.....

The removal of the full license of the ROYAL ARTILLERY INN, 42, Lichfield Street, Willenhall, to premises to be erected at the corner of Wolverhampton Road and Broad Lane, Willenhall.”

ROYAL EXCHANGE

King Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

David Evans [1855] – [1861]

Walker [1869]

W Coxon [1870]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 Beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Sentinel 26/5/1855 - Advert

“*John Lignum and Son's Antiscorbutic Drops, Lotion, and Ointment. Established A.D. 1790.*

Remarkable Cure by the use of *John Lignum and Son's Antiscorbutic Drops.*

‘*Willenhall, near Wolverhampton, April 12th, 1854.*

Gentlemen: About eighteen years since I became every much troubled with Scorbutic Leprosy, having had it slightly from youth; my whole body became one complete coat of scales, and would fall off as much as a handful every night; my head was covered with a coat of thick crust, and itched so much that I ultimately became bereft of reason from the intensity of irritation it produced. I tried all the medical aid in the neighbourhood I then lived in, but was told it was one of those leprous affections which were past the art of medicine to cure. I then tried different persons' remedies, but to no avail; and, as a last resource, I heard of your Medicines, and after using one bottle of Lotion and two bottles of Drops, I found myself an entirely new creature. I have since taken, at different times, a little whenever any appearance indicated a return, and have great reason to be thankful for the cure your Medicines have wrought; and desire you should publish to the world the result of taking such an excellent remedy. The disease worked out of my ears in lumps as big as peas, and every pore of my body sent forth the humour in a most astonishing and profuse manner, previous to my recovery.

David Evans, Landlord of the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Willenhall.

To Messrs. *John Lignum and Son*, Manchester.’

The Drops are sold in moulded square Bottles, at 2s 9d, 4s 6d, and 11s each, by the Proprietors, *John Lignum and Son*, Windmill Street (Bridge Street), Manchester; and all respectable Medicine Vendors in this town and neighbourhood.

Of whom also may be had *John Lignum and Son's Improved Vegetable Lotion* for all Scorbutic Eruptions, Price 2s 9d, duty included; and the *Scurvy Ointment*, Price 1s 9s each Pot, duty included.”

1861 Census

King Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE

[1] *David Evans* (66), publican, born Berriew, Montgomeryshire;

[2] *Sarah Evans* (52), wife, born Ludlow;

[3] *Ann Evans* (22), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] *David Evans* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/1/1869

“T. Walker of Willenhall will run Lounes of the same place 120 yards, or will take two yards in 100 of J. Cooper, either match for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready at Mr. *Walker*'s, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Willenhall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/3/1870

~~“Nickle's bitch Luce of Wednesfield can be matched against Wilkinson's Rose or Green's Quick, to give and take two yards to the pound, for £5 or £19 a side. Money ready at W. Coxen's, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Willenhall.”~~

ROYAL EXCHANGE

9, (11), Wolverhampton Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Coxon [1870] – [1871]

William Booker [] – 1874;

William Clawley (1874 – 1881);

Enoch Williams (1881 – []

Jacob Clayton [1891]

Mrs. Ellen Harper [1901] – [1932]

William Joseph Harper [1940]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as ‘The Duck Pen’ and ‘Ellen Harper's’.

William Coxon = William Coxen

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/3/1870

~~“Nickle's bitch Luce of Wednesfield can be matched against Wilkinson's Rose or Green's Quick, to give and take two yards to the pound, for £5 or £19 a side. Money ready at *W. Coxen's*, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Willenhall.”~~

1871 Census

11, Wolverhampton Street

[1] *William Coxon* (31), lock polisher and publican, born Willenhall;

[2] Eliza Coxon (30), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Eliza Pitt (16), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

9, Wolverhampton Street – EXCHANGE INN

[1] *Jacob Clayton* (52), locksmith, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Betsy Clayton (44), wife, born Bilston;

[3] Noah Heath (22), step-son, cooper, born Willenhall;

[4] Jessie Beecham Heath (10), step-son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] Joseph Clayton (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] Elizabeth Clayton (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[7] Isaiah Pearson (72), boarder, general labourer, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

Wolverhampton Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE Public House

[1] *Ellen Harper* (50), widow, innkeeper, born Darlaston;

[2] *William Joseph Harper* (22), son, barman, born Darlaston:

Mrs. *Ellen Harper*, beer retailer, 9, Wolverhampton Street. [1904], [1912], [1916], [1932]

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1943 - Advert

“Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instruction to Sell by Auction at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, on Friday next, April 16th, at six o'clock in the evening precisely, subject to Condition of Sale then to be produced, as follows.

Lot 1. A Valuable Freehold Ante-69 Beerhouse-On, known as the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall, occupying an important central position, being double-fronted and containing Entrance Passage running through, spacious Bar 24ft x 10ft with outdoor service, Front Smoke-room 8ft x 8ft, Sitting-room at back with register tiled grate, Living Kitchen, three Bedrooms, and Cellars, together with two Floor Stores, Wash-house and the usual domestic conveniences in enclosed yard, also the adjoining Shop and Dwelling House (part being let and part in hand), being No.8, Wolverhampton Street. The foregoing Licensed Property, which is under management, is doing and has done for a number of years a very large and profitable trade, and the Auctioneers have every confidence in recommending the house to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage, or to those looking for a free house for occupation.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/7/1968

“Walsall firemen received several calls during the day to help pump away floodwater from business premises and homes there was also flooding at the ROYAL EXCHANGE, Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall.”

[1969]

Closed
Demolished

ROYAL EXCHANGE

Sandbeds, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Turner [1833] – [1841]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license. [1834]

Benjamin Turner, retail brewer, Sandbeds. [1833]

Benjamin Turner, beer retailer, Sandbeds. [1834], [1835], [1841]

1841 Census

Sandbeds

[1] *Benjamin Turner* (60), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Lydia Turner* (70), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Elizabeth Smith* (15), fs, born Staffordshire;

[4] *Margret _____* (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

ROYAL GEORGE

5, New Road, (Stafford Street), (Church Street), (Walsall Street), (Walsall Road), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Atkinsons Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Angela Donovan (acquired in 1992)
Fedamore Inns [2002], [2003]

LICENSEES

William Duncomb [1818] – **1837**
John Riley Hincks [1839] – [1851]
Mrs. Hannah Hincks [1860] – **1862**);
Thomas Williams (**1862 – 1873**);
Alfred Leary (**1873 – 1881**);
Thomas Macdonald (**1881 – []** manager
Harry Cook [1891] – [1894] manager
Edward Leary [1892] – [1898]
William Isaac Foulkes [1900] – [1908]
George Tubb [1911]
Clarence Frank Slann [1912]
John Joyce [1916] – [1921]
Richard Pountney [1932] – [1940]
Jack Summerton [1965] – **1975**)
William Donovan (**1982 – [1986]**)
Mrs. Angela Theresa Donovan [1988] – [2001]
Mrs. Angela Theresa Donovan and Michael Francis Donovan [2007]
[Patrick Rawley \[2022\]](#)

NOTES

Stafford Street [1818]
Walsall Street [1828], [1849], [1860], [1868], [1870], [1873], [1894]
Church Street [1850], [1851]
Walsall Road [1861]
5, New Road [1911], [1916], [1932], [1940], [2016]

The Reverend William Moreton, who was the vicar of St. Giles' Church [from 1795], and was known locally as 'Owd Mowton', regularly called here on his way to deliver his Sunday sermon.

William Duncomb = William Duncombe

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/2/1837 - Died](#)

“On the 2nd instant, Mr. *William Duncomb*, of the GEORGE INN, Willenhall, aged 73.”

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/5/1839 - Notice](#)

“Dog Lost, about seven days since, a young Black Tan well-bred Setter Dog, from the house of Mr. *John Ryley Hincks*, ROYAL GEORGE INN, Willenhall: he had on a collar bearing the name ‘J. R. Hincks’. Whoever has found him, and will restore him to the owner as above, shall have all reasonable expenses paid, and any person detaining him after this notice will be dealt with according to the law.

Willenhall, May 20, 1839.”

1841 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *John Hincks* (35), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Hannah Hincks* (40), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Phoebe Bird (17), f.s., born Staffordshire;
- [4] Henry Adams (35), m.s., born Staffordshire:

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/5/1843](#)

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq., coroner. On Monday last, at the ROYAL GEORGE, Willenhall, on the body of John Wood, aged nine years. The deceased was playing in a cart in a shed near his father's house, the shafts being propped up by a wooden stand; by his getting on the backboard the cart-stand was shaken down, the shafts fell to the ground, and the deceased was forced by the backboard to the top of the shed, which was very low; his throat was held tight between them, and he was suffocated almost instantly. Verdict Accidental Death.”

It was rebuilt in 1847.

1851 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *John R. Hincks* (47), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Hannah Hincks* (50), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Amelia Blanton* (18), servant, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Eliza Read* (14), servant, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/8/1859

“There are few small towns that possess so many provident societies, so well supported by the working classes, for whose benefit they are especially intended, as are to be found at Willenhall, a fact which must be considered as indicative of the frugal habits of the inhabitants. On Monday no fewer than five of these societies or clubs held their annual anniversaries.....

Upwards of forty members of a Friendly Society held at the ROYAL GEORGE INN, Walsall Street, dined together at the above inn, under the presidency of Mr. Chalmers, assistant to Mr. Hartill, surgeon to the society. From the report of the Treasurer it appeared that the society was in a prosperous condition, the balance in hand about £300.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/2/1861

“Willenhall Relief Fund. List of Subscriptions.....

Mrs *Hincks* (ROYAL GEORGE INN) £1 1s.....

Total £137 14s 6d.

Further subscriptions are earnestly requested, as the distress is still great, in consequence of the very depressed state of the staple trade of the town.”

1861 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Hannah Hincks* (60), married, victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Caroline Gowshaw* (18), servant of all work, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Phebe Robinson* (16), servant of all work, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/5/1861 - Advert

“John Cassere will Sell by Auction, in one lot, at the house of Mrs. *Hincks*, the ROYAL GEORGE, Willenhall, on Friday, the 7th day of June, 1861, at six o'clock in the evening precisely, subject to conditions which will be then produced. All those three Dwelling Houses, with the Workshop and Garden thereto belonging, situate and being near a place called the Water Glade, in Willenhall.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/5/1862

“At the County Petty Sessions, held in this town, on Monday last the following licenses were transferred that of the ROYAL GEORGE, Willenhall, from *Hannah Hinckes* to *Thomas Williams*, car proprietor.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862 - Advert

“Wanted, an active, single, young man, as Brewer and Ostler, and to make himself generally useful. Apply at the ROYAL GEORGE, Willenhall. No one need apply who cannot produce a good character.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/11/1863 - Advert

“Wanted, a Single Man, as Carman, &c. None need apply whose character will not bear the strictest scrutiny. Application, *Thomas Williams*, ROYAL GEORGE, Willenhall.”

In 1866 *Thomas Williams* gave evidence in a trial concerning the murder of a police-constable – see RAILWAY.

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/7/1869 - Advert

“Mining, Building and Accommodation Land, Houses, Taverns, &c. (Freehold and Copyhold), in Willenhall (first portion of the Estates of *Thomas Hincks Esq.*, deceased), by direction of the Vice-Chancellor, Sir John Stuart, under the Order dated the 31st of July, 1868, in *Turton v Barber*.

Mr. Henry Weirland Greader will Sell, at the ROYAL GEORGE, in Willenhall, on Friday, September 17, 1869, at five o'clock precisely.....

The said lots comprise the KING CHARLES IN THE OAK TREE Public-house.....

17 Houses and Shops (including the WATER GLADE INN and the ROYAL GEORGE INN, at Water Glade).....”

1871 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Thomas Williams* (61), licensed victualler, born Handsworth;
- [2] *Harriett Williams* (66), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Jane Robins* (21), general servant, born Bilston:

Thomas Williams was also a horse and carriage letter. [1873]

Birmingham Daily Post 10/12/1873

“The following license transfers were granted on Monday, at the County Police Court.....
the ROYAL GEORGE, Walsall Street, Willenhall, from the executors of the late *Thomas Williams* to *Alfred Leary*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/11/1875

“*Alfred Leary*, proprietor of the ROYAL GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall Street, was fined 40s and costs for permitting drunkenness in his house on the 25th ult.”

1881 Census

5, New Road

- [1] *Thomas Macdonald* (25), victualler's manager, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Teresa Macdonald* (20), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Gertrude Macdonald* (2 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Timothy Mahony* (23), boarder, barman, born Dudley;
- [5] *Ann Jones* (18), general servant, born Bilston:

1891 Census

5, New Road

- [1] *Harry Cook* (38), manager public house, born Leicester;
- [2] *Mary Cook* (34), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Harry Cook* (13), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Elizabeth Cook* (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Frederick Cook* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *Minnie Cook* (6), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Charles Cook* (4), son, scholar, born Wednesfield;
- [8] *Nellie Cook* (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Eunice Cook* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [10] *John Wark* (18), barman, born Bilston;
- [11] *Fanny Cooper* (14), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/11/1894

“Several publicans from Bilston were summoned before the Stipendiary at Wolverhampton, yesterday, for offences against the Licensing and Betting Acts. *Henry Cooke*, manager for seven years of the ROYAL GEORGE, Walsall Street, was convicted of two offences, and fined £21 and £3 costs, or six weeks' imprisonment the offences were proved by police officers imported from Handsworth, who visited the suspected houses in disguise.”

AND

“At the Wolverhampton Police Court, yesterday, *Edward Leary*, licensee, and *Henry Cook*, manager, of the ROYAL GEORGE INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, were summoned for permitting betting on the premises. Mr. A. Whitehouse appeared to prosecute, and Mr. Plumptre defended.

At the opening of the proceedings the case against *Leary* was withdrawn. The case against *Cook* was then taken, and evidence was given that Police-constable Miller, a Perry Bar constable, attired as a labourer, visited the house on two occasions, and found betting going on, the defendant receiving money and papers relating to bets. The defendant was fined £20, and the costs in one case, and 20s and the costs in the other.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/3/1898

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Edward Leary*, landlord of the ROYAL GEORGE INN, Willenhall, was fined 40s and the costs for permitting drunkenness on his premises; and *Mark Hall* was fined 10s, and *Charles Bray* 5s, for being drunk on the premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/11/1894

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Charles Keates* (27), Hall Street; and *Josiah George* (34), Walsall Street, Willenhall, were charged with assaulting *John Westwood*, a spectacle-frame maker, Cross Street, Blakenhall, Wolverhampton.

The evidence showed that the case arose out of the recent raid on publicans in the district. On Tuesday last the prosecutor went into the ROYAL GEORGE INN, Willenhall, with a companion, when it was alleged that Keates called him a police spy, upon which some men knocked him down, and he was savagely assaulted.

The prosecutor's statement was not corroborated, and the cases were dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/8/1900

“At Wolverhampton County Licensing Sessions yesterday.....

Mr. William Stevens (secretary of the Wolverhampton and District Licensed Victuallers' Association) opposed the renewal of the license of *William Foulkes*, of the ROYAL GEORGE INN, Walsall Street, on the ground that he was guilty of unfair trading in giving excessive over measure of beer retailed by him, that the practice was carried on in order to obtain trade and custom by unfair and improper competition, that it was contrary to public order and was calculated to increase drunkenness.

Mr. R. J. Lawrence appeared for *Foulkes*, and Mr. R. A. Willcock for the society.

Mr. Stevens stated that the society did not object to over measure if it did not exceed 25 per cent, but when it reached over 50 per cent, 75 per cent, and even 100 per cent they regarded it as excessive.

Mr. Lawrence said his client claimed the right to carry on his trade in the ordinary way so long as he observed the law as expounded by that bench. He objected to be dictated to by any petty society, and if he thought proper to give over measure to the extent not only of twenty-five per cent but of 500½ per cent. The society had had a difficulty, as he gleaned from Mr. Stevens, in getting several of the members to agree with the stipulations, but most of them had caved in after threats. It was not an honest attempt to get the publican before the Bench, but it was an organised attempt to get out of the British public the tax which had been imposed upon the brewers by the Legislature. The society's policy had been one of bounce. The magistrates retired, and on returning said the aid of the Bench should not have been invoked in a dispute which was really a trade dispute. The license would be renewed."

1901 Census

5, New Road – GEORGE HOTEL

[1] *William I. Foulkes* (31), licensed victualler, born Warrington;

[2] *Fanny Foulkes* (27), wife, born Northwich, Cheshire;

[3] *Jane Felton* (25), general servant, born Moxley;

[4] *Mary Corbett* (17), general servant, born Darlaston;

[5] *James Foulkes* (4), son, born Dukenfield, Cheshire;

[6] *William Foulkes* (3), son, born Crewe:

1911 Census

5, New Road

[1] *George Tubb* (51), publican, born Gloucester;

[2] *Grace Tubb* (62), married 30 years, assisting in the business, born Wigtown, Dunragit;

[3] *Lily Groucutt* (30), barmaid, born Bradley:

George Tubb – see also ROYAL GEORGE, Bilston, and TALBOT, Bilston.

Jack Summerton (1909–1976) retired in December 1975.

He was married to Edith.

See also TURF / SHRUBBERY, Tipton, ROYAL OAK, Langley and KING ARTHUR, Dudley.

A. T. Donovan's Inn.

Express & Star 15/9/2022

"A Black Country pub has been giving its regulars and newcomers a new taste as part of a festival. The ROYAL GEORGE in Willenhall has been running a week-long real ale festival, showcasing six beers from the Wye Valley Brewery. The festival started on Monday and runs until Sunday, with hog roasts on Wednesday and Saturday, a prize draw on Sunday and a range of other activities during the week. Landlord *Patrick Rawley* said it was the first time the family-run pub had held a beer festival and said it was something he'd worked with the brewery to make happen....."

[2022]

ROYAL OAK

6, Cannon Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Read [1868] – **1876**;

Job Phillips (**1876** – [1877])

George Preston [1881]

Charles W Lees [1891] – [1904]

Samuel Stevens [1912]

Alfred Edmund 'Bumper' Burrows [1932] – [1940]

A Reynolds [1976]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as 'Bumper Burrow's'.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/11/1868 - Deaths

"On the 27th ultimo, aged 69 years, father of Mr. *William Read*, of the ROYAL OAK, Cannon Street, Willenhall; deeply regretted."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

"Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates' office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

William Read, ROYAL OAK, Willenhall, 10s and costs....."

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for permitting gaming.....

William Read, ROYAL OAK, Willenhall, 2s 6d and costs.....

and *William Read*, ROYAL OAK, Willenhall, for disorderly house, had been fined 10s and costs."

1871 Census

Cannon Street

- [1] *William Read* (38), beer seller, born Willenhall;
- [2] Emma Read (29), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Harriett Read (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Anne Read (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Elizabeth Read (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Mary A. Green (17), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Midland Examiner 16/1/1875 - Deaths

"On the 31st ultimo, aged 46 years, Randall Read, brother to *William Read*, of the ROYAL OAK, Cannon Street, Willenhall."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 14/4/1877 - Advert

"I, *Job Phillips*, ROYAL OAK, Cannon Street, Willenhall, hereby give notice that I will not be responsible for any Debt or Debs my Wife, Mary Phillips, may contract after this date."

1881 Census

6, Cannon Street – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *George Preston* (54), key maker and publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Emma Preston (52), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] Joseph G. Preston (15), son, carpenter and joiner, born Willenhall;
- [4] Emily Preston (9), granddaughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] John Glover (19), apprentice key maker, born Willenhall;
- [6] Catherine Walton (17), domestic servant, born Bilston:

1891 Census

6, Cannon Street – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Charles W. Lees* (26), carpenter and joiner, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sarah Lees (26), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Sarah V. Lees (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Clarissa Lees (2), daughter, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

6, Cannon Street – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Charles W. Lees* (36), builder and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sarah Lees (36), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Violet Lees (15), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Clarissa Lees (12), daughter, born Willenhall:

Charles Lees, beer retailer and carpenter, 6, Cannon Street. [1904]

Samuel Stevens, beer retailer, 6, Cannon Street. [1912]

South Staffordshire Times 14/2/1920

“County Licensing Sessions.....

The Chairman commented on the fact that plans for certain alterations of the ROYAL OAK INN, Cannon Street, were approved on 13th May 1918, but such alterations had not as yet been commenced, and said the justices could not allow plans to be passed and then remain in abeyance forever. They would shortly require the owners of that house to submit their plans again.”

Alfred Edmund Burrows was baptized at St. Anne’s Church on 10th April, 1873. He was the son on Henry James, butcher, and Anne.

Alfred Edmund Burrows married Florence Maria Stevens in 1893.

Alfred Edmund Burrows, beer retailer, 6, Cannon Street. [1932]

1939 Register

6, Cannon Street – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Alfred E. Burrows*, date of birth 18/1/1873, publican, widowed;

[2] Daisy I. Burrows, dob 3/9/1903, private means, unpaid domestic duties, single;

[3] Ramsey Burrows, dob 1/6/1907, manager, publican’s business, married;

[4] Ivy M. Burrows, dob 22/5/1915, helps husband in public house, married:

ROYAL OAK

Lichfield Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edward Robinson [1834] – [1841]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Edward Robinson, retailer of beer, Lichfield Street. [1835]

Edward Robinson, beer retailer, Lichfield Street. [1841]

ROYAL OAK

38, (40), (71), New Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1996]

LICENSEES

James Letts [1845] – [1850]

William Cooper [1850]

Frederick Cooper [1851] – **1855**);

Henry Lowe (**1855** – [1857]

William Perry [1860] – [1871]

Catherine Perry [1872] – [1874]

Herbert Bickerton [1880] – [1881]

Mrs. Sarah Davies [1891] – [1892]
Thomas Jones [1896] – [1904]
J T Millington [1908]
Thomas Morris [1911] – [1912]
George Seagar [1916] – [1921]
Mrs. Jane Wright [1932]
William J Spencer [1939] – [1940]
Gavin Lee and Jason Anthony Kitson [2007]

NOTES

73, New Street [1871]
40, New Street [1881], [1901], [1911]
38, New Street [1891]

ROYAL OAK TAVERN [1850]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was locally listed

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/4/1850

“Yesterday (Tuesday), an inquest was held at the ROYAL OAK, Portobello, before T. M. Phillips, Esq., coroner, on the body of Thomas Jones, 22 years of age, who died on Monday, from injuries received by a large quantity of coal falling upon him from the roof of a pit at Bunker’s Hill, whilst he was assisting another miner to put a tree in the workings. He was pulled out from underneath that first quantity of coal, but a second quantity immediately fell, and he received injuries which terminated in his death a few hours afterwards. Verdict Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

New Street, Portobello – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Frederick Cooper* (39), victualler, born Westminster, Middlesex;
- [2] Hannah Cooper (37), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Mary Maria Cooper (2 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Betsey Crumpton (19), general servant, born Bilston;
- [5] Richard Wilson (20), general servant, born Hopton, Staffordshire:

Birmingham Journal 31/3/1855 - Advert

“Sale At The ROYAL OAK INN, Portobello, between Wolverhampton and Willenhall.

By Charles Gray. To be Sold by Auction, upon the premises as above, without reserve, on Tuesday, the 10th day of April, 1855 – a portion of the Household Furniture, Feather Beds, Bedsteads, mahogany Chest of Drawers, Sofa, Chairs, Tables, eight hogshead and half-hogshead casks, sweet and in good condition, small Casks, Porter Bottles, Jars, Two Pockets and four Tumps of prime Hops, of the growth of 1852 and 1853, fashionably built Dog Cart, nearly new, two excellent Gigs, Harness, and other Effects, being the joint property of Mr. *F. Cooper*, the late Tenant, and the present Proprietor, Mr. *Henry Lowe*.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock in the morning.

Conditions as usual. Sales settled on the day of Sale.

Offices: High Street, Dudley, and High Street, Walsall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/11/1858

“First examination *Henry Lowe*, the ROYAL OAK, Portobello, licensed victualler, supported by Mr. Kenealy, and opposed by Mr. Ebsworth and Mr. J. Walker, the chief ground of opposition being that the insolvent had, when actually in a state of insolvency, taken off the whole of his property and had received the whole of the money realized by that sale, and had also shown a fraudulent preference by paying some of his creditors in full just previous to filing his petition. The insolvent passed his first examination, the question of fraud being reserved until the 26th of November, the day named for his final order.”

1861 Census

ROYAL OAK – New Street, Portobello

- [1] *William Perry* (52), victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] Catherine Perry (46), wife, born Devonshire;
- [3] Hannah Hanbury (20), house servant, born Shiffnall [Shifnal];
- [4] Samuel Brown (28), boarder, stone miner, born Sedgley;
- [5] Thomas Thomas (25), boarder, stone miner, born Oswestry;
- [6] Richard Thomas (15), boarder, stone miner, born Oswestry:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1862

“County licensing meeting held on Thursday last There were no licenses suspended, but the following publicans were reprimanded for misconduct in the management of their houses during the last twelve months *William Perry*, the ROYAL OAK, Portobello As promises of amendment were made for the future, the licenses were again renewed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/9/1862 - Advert

“To be Let, the ROYAL OAK INN, Portobello, doing a good Spirit and Ale Trade. Valuation low. Apply to Mr. Lewis, KINGS ARMS, Bilston.”

William Perry, beer retailer, New Street. [1864], [1865]

Catherine Perry = Catherine Parry

1871 Census

73, New Street

PERRY

[2] *Catherine Perry* (49), wife, born Bilston;

[3] William Perry (21), son, coal miner, born Willenhall;

[4] Margaret J. Perry (15), daughter, born America;

[5] Richard Weaver (18), boarder, coal miner, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

“Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Alehouses: *Catherine Parry*, ROYAL OAK, Portobello.....”

Herbert Bickerton = Herbert Bickington

Herbert Bickerton married Clara Leah Rowbotham in the 3rd quarter of 1873.

She was the daughter of Thomas and Ann Rowbotham of the THREE FURNACES, Wednesfield.

Wolverhampton Express and Star 26/1/1880

“Last night, *Herbert Bickington*, ROYAL OAK INN, Portobello, and Edward Willetts, THREE FURNACES, Moseley Village, were driving from Walsall, and when near to Park Brook they were thrown out of the trap, and so seriously injured that Drs. Macclachlan and Wood, who were called in, ordered their removal to the Cottage Hospital, where they now lie in a precarious condition. The horse and trap were found at Willenhall.”

Evening Express 26/1/1881

“*Herbert Bickerton*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, New Street, Portobello, near Willenhall, was charged at the instance of Chief Superintendent Longdon, with allowing his house to be used for betting purposes.

Mr. H. Brevitt prosecuted on behalf of the Chief Constable of the county (Captain Congreve) and Mr. R. A. Willcock defended. The charges were in respect of November 29th and December 24th and divers other days, and were laid under the Betting House Act.

Mr. Willcock said that he was only instructed that morning and he asked for an adjournment, especially as the defendant was charged with allowing betting ‘on divers other days.’ He was not at present prepared with evidence in respect ‘of divers other days.’

Mr. Brevitt said the defendant kept the summons in his pocket a week before instructing a solicitor, and if he was not properly represented it was his own fault.

Mr. Willcock said the police ought to have issued the summons earlier than two months after the first offence.

Mr. Brevitt replied that the matter had been under consideration by the police authorities at Stafford.

Mr. Boughey thought the first case must go on, and if necessary he would grant an adjournment.

Mr. Brevitt then stated the case for the prosecution, from which it appeared that in November last a pigeon match was arranged for a Mr. Hall’s pigeon to fly Mr. Alexander’s pigeon for £1 a side, and that the defendant should be stakeholder. On the first date named Messrs. Hall and Alexander each put 2s down on the defendant’s table, and defendant took up the money. On several other subsequent days money was paid by other persons on account of the same race until £1 a side was staked. On the 27th of December, the day of the race, Mr. Hall’s pigeon won, but a ‘wrangle’ occurred, and the stakes were not paid over. With respect to the 24th of December, the defendant, Mr. Brevitt stated, made a bet in his own house on another pigeon match, and paid over the stakes in another race for 30s a side.

Mr. Willcock offered to admit the facts of the case, in order to argue with Mr. Brevitt whether defendant having received money to abide the result of the pigeon match, on the contingency of a match then in course of arrangement, came within the terms of the Betting Act.

Mr. Brevitt agreed to this, and proceeded to argue that the Betting House Act prohibited, by sections 3 and 4, ‘the owner or occupier of a house to receive money on the contingency of a race,’ and was liable to a maximum penalty of £100. The defendant could have been charged under the Licensing Act, but the prosecution had preferred the charge under the Betting House Act. He

submitted that 'the pigeon match' came within the term of 'race' as defined by the Act, from the fact of money being laid on a contingency. In reply to Mr. Boughey, he said that an illegal bet might have been made in a private house, and the owner would have been liable under this Act.

Mr. Willcock contended that no offence, under the Act cited, had been committed by the defendant. The question being between the prosecution and the defendant was the difference between a 'bet' and a 'stake'. A man might be guilty of an offence under the Betting Act if he laid a bet and received the odds, but there was no offence by two persons depositing certain sums of money with a third person to abide a certain result. Moreover, it was not alleged that the defendant got any money out of the transaction. Section 6 of the same Act stated that 'nothing in the Act should extend to any person receiving or holding any money by way of stakes or deposit to be paid to the winner of any race.' Mr. Willcock submitted that that was a fatal objection.

To this Mr. Brevitt stated that he relied on Sections 3 and 4 which made it illegal for any person to keep a house for gaming purposes. If Section 6 was taken by itself, the whole Act was a nullity.

The learned Stipendiary raised that so far as the charge 'of allowing betting' went, the summons was not supported under the Betting House Act, and the charge was dismissed.

The defendant was next charged under the Licensing Act with allowing betting on his premises on the 24th of December. On that date Mr. Brevitt said the defendant made a bet with another man over another pigeon match, besides allowing others to bet on the same race.

He was fined 40s, and costs. The license not to be endorsed."

1881 Census

40, New Street, Portobello – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Herbert Bickerton* (31), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Clara Bickerton* (26), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] *Clara Willetts* (4), relation, child, scholar, born Wolverhampton:

Evening Express 28/7/1881 - Advert

"ROYAL OAK, New Street, Portobello, old licensed free public house, with large concert room to hold 250 people; rent only £20; incoming about £120.

Apply Thomas Skidmore, valuer, Wolverhampton."

Evening Express 8/8/1881 - Advert

"ROYAL OAK, New Street, Portobello. This old-licensed free Public House to Let, with large concert room, good brewing plant; incoming only about £100.

Apply, Thomas Skidmore, valuer, Wolverhampton."

Sarah Davies = Sarah Davis

1891 Census

38, New Street – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Sarah Davis* (58), widow, publican, born Shropshire:

1901 Census

40, New Street, Portobello

[1] *Thomas Jones* (50), hawker and publican, born Portobello;

[2] *Eliza Jones* (53), wife, born Portobello;

[3] *Thomas Jones* (17), son, coal carter, born Portobello;

[4] *Eliza Jones* (14), daughter, born Portobello;

[5] *Fred Jones* (7), son, born Portobello;

[6] *James Wood* (26), son in law, widower, brass pad maker, born Portobello;

[7] *Louisa Wood* (4), niece, born Portobello;

[8] *Jemima Wood* (2), niece, born Portobello:

1911 Census

40, New Street, Portobello

[1] *Thomas Morris* (66), publican, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Sarah Morris* (70), wife, married 17 years, born Madeley, Shropshire;

[3] *Bert Baker* (22), grandson, married, greengrocer, born Willenhall;

[4] *Eleanor Baker* (18), granddaughter, married, born Willenhall;

[5] *Sarah Baker* (13 months), grandchild, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1937

"Twelve applications for the confirmation of licence removals remained to be heard by the Staffordshire Licensing Confirmation Committee when they resumed their sitting at Stafford on Tuesday. Sir William Goodwin (chairman) presided.....

The justices approved six removals in the Willenhall Division. In several cases it was stated that the licence would be transferred from old houses in congested areas to modern premises in newly developed districts. In consideration the brewery companies

would surrender other licences. The removals were as follows.....

Removal of full licence of ROYAL OAK, New Street, Portobello, to premises proposed to be erected at the junction of New Street, Portobello, and a proposed new road leading from the main Wolverhampton Road, Portobello.”

It was rebuilt in 1938.

1939 Register

New Street – ROYAL OAK

[1] *William J. Spencer*, date of birth 6/8/1897, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Alice Spencer*, dob 17/10/1898, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *William L. Spencer*, dob 19/11/1917, bus conductor, married;

[4] *Lavinia M. Spencer*, dob 8/9/1919, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[5] *Dorothy M. (Phillips) Morris*, domestic (paid), single:

Alterations were made in 1965.

Alterations were made c.1996.

[2016]

RUSHBROOKE FARTHING

120, St. Annes Road, (13+14, (35), (14), St. Anns Road), (St. Anns Lane) / Spring Vale Street, Spring Bank, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Silas Tonks

Mr. Squire [1856]

Mr. Langman [1869]

Emily Lashford

Truman, Hanbury, Buxton and Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1932)

LICENSEES

Daniel Squire [1856]

Silas Tonks [1860] – [1881]

Mrs. Lucy Tonks [1891] – [1896]

Mrs. Emily (Tonks) Handley [1901] – [1904]

Mrs. Emily Lashford [1911] – [1921]

Jesse Lashford []

Albert Grant [1932] – [1943]

Mike Jones [1978]

Clive Westwood [1984] – [1987]

Janet Crompton [2007]

NOTES

Spring Vale Street [1861]

St. Anns Lane [1871]

14, St. Anns Road [1881]

35, St. Anns Road [1891]

13+14 St. Anns Road [1901]

120, St. Anns Road [1932], [1940]

SPRING VALE TAVERN [1869], [1881], [1911]

SPRING BANK TAVERN [1896], [1904]

SPRING VALE HOTEL [1909], [1919], [1925], [1939], [1940], [1943]

SPRING VALE [1912], [1932]

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1856

“Applications for new licenses. There were fourteen applications altogether for licenses to sell spirits – all from beershop keepers – only four of which were granted by the Magistrates.

Mr. Bartlett, attorney, applied on behalf of *Daniel Squire*, BANK TAVERN, Willenhall, and urged that in consequence of the great increase of the works in the neighbourhood and of the population, an additional license was necessary. Six well-worked pits had been recently opened in the vicinity. The father of the claimant was the owner of the house, which had lately been newly embellished; the certificate had received the signature of the clergyman of the parish and other highly respectable inhabitants, the police gave a high character of the house during its management as a beershop, and there was no licensed house within half a mile. Mr. Joseph Duncombe, of the WOOLPACK, however, came forward, and stated that the applicant’s house was within 300 yards of his premises, and the Magistrates refused the license.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/10/1860

“*Silas Tonks*, occupier of a public house at Spring Bank, Willenhall, was charged with keeping open after hours. He was also charged with threatening the officer who detected the offence. For the threat he was ordered to enter into his own recognizances, and to find a surety in £10, to keep the peace, the other charge being dismissed.”

Silas Tonks, beer retailer, Spring Bank. [1861], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

1861 Census

Spring Vale Street

- [1] *Silas Tonks* (35), locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Lucy Tonks* (31), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Maroua Tonks* (11), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Eliza Tonks* (9), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Joseph Tonks* (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Clara Tonks* (5 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Charles Piper* (20), lockmaker’s apprentice, born Lester;
- [8] *Mary Ann Evans* (13), house servant, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

“Mr. Thurstans next applied for a license to the SPRING VALE TAVERN, in Ann Street, Willenhall, kept by Mr. *Silas Tonks*. Since 1856, he said, the population had increased by upwards of 600, and within an area of a few acres the number of inhabitants was 1,235. A number of streets in this locality were without public-house accommodation, and his client’s house was eligibly situated for supplying the wants of the dwellers in those streets.

Mr. Thurstans also applied for a license on the part of Mr. Brown, the owner of a house in Spring Vale Street, and said that all the remarks he had made in support of *Tonks*’s application would apply with equal force to that of Mr. Brown. He submitted that the public convenience called for the granting of a license in one of the cases.

Mr. Underhill opposed Mr. *Tonks*’s application on the part of Mr. Putnam, of the SARACENS HEAD, and Mr. Tipper, of the GEORGE. He said the house at present occupied by the applicant was a nuisance to the neighbours, and a fatal objection to the application was that the house in respect of which the application was that the house was in an unfinished state. He contended that there was no occasion for even one additional license in the locality. The Bench declined to entertain either application.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

“At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division, Seisdon North, held yesterday.....

Mr. Thurstans supported the application of Mr. *Tonks*; Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mr. Tipper, of the GEORGE INN, and Mr. Putnam, of the SARACENS HEAD. On behalf of the applicant, Mr. Thurstans spoke of the increase in the population in the locality where his client’s house was situated, and also produced a certificate testifying that he was a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license. Mr. Thurstans also applied on behalf of Thomas Brown, of the BIRD IN HAND, situated in the same street as the last applicant’s house. This house was stated to be large and newly erected. He said he hardly expected that both the applications would be granted; but he would leave it with the Bench to decide which of the premises were most eligible. Mr. Underhill opposed as before, and stated that he had taken the precaution to inquire as to the applicant’s character from Inspector Thompson, with the view of ascertaining in what way he had conducted his house. Mr. Thurstans objected to any statement being made unless it was afterwards proved in evidence. After some other remarks had been made, Mr. Underhill expressed his willingness to leave the matter in the hands of the magistrates, when they had seen Inspector Thompson and heard what he had to say upon the subject.”

[Mr. *Tonks*’s application was refused.]

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1864

“The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans for the Wolverhampton Division of Seisdon North, was held yesterday, at the County Police Court, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.....

Mr. Cresswell applied on behalf of *Silas Tonks*, of the SPRING VALE TAVERN, Spring Bank, near to Little London. The house was situated in a locality in which the population had recently increased so very rapidly that it had just been formed into a separate

ecclesiastical district. The ironworks of Messrs. Deakin and Dodd were near, and two other works were about to be opened close by. The only two licensed houses there were the GEORGE INN and the SARACENS HEAD, the first about 200 yards off and the other about half a mile away. The SPRING VALE TAVERN had been put up expressly as a public house, and it possessed all the requisite stabling and other accommodation. Mr. *Tonks* was the owner of the premises, and he had conducted them without any complaint being made against him.

Mr. Thurstans opposed, on behalf of the keepers of the GEORGE and the SARACENS HEAD respectively, and expressed his astonishment at the remarks of Mr. Cresswell, relative to the alleged excellent manner in which Mr. *Tonks* had conducted himself as a beerhouse keeper, as it was notorious that he had been convicted on two or three occasions.

Mr. Thompson, inspector of police, was present, and remarked that these convictions had taken place before Mr. *Tonks* built the SPRING VALE TAVERN.

Mr. Thurstans, continuing, said that with reference to the alleged increase of population only two additional houses had in the past year been erected in the locality spoken of.....

The Magistrates reserved their decision on all these applications until the adjourned licensing day.”

[Refused at the Adjourned Licensing Meeting.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, in this county, was held on Friday, at the County Magistrates’ Room, Bilston Street. The Magistrates on the Bench were H. Hill, J. Perks, S. Cartwright, and B. Hicklin, Esqs.....

Mr. Underhill said he had now to apply on behalf of a person named *Silas Tonks* for a license to the house occupied by him at Spring Bank, Willenhall, which was one of the most thriving and rapidly increasing neighbourhoods in Willenhall. The application, he understood, was to be opposed by his friend, Mr. Young, on behalf of a rival publican, chiefly on the ground of the character of his client. Now, he would at once admit that some seven years ago his client was summoned twice in one year for offences against the tenor of his license as a beerhouse keeper. For the first offence he was fined 10s and costs, and in the second instance the charge could not be sustained. But he submitted that the lapse of time which had taken place since then, and the fact that Mr. *Tonks* had conducted his house so satisfactorily that no further charge had been preferred against him, was sufficient to redeem any loss of character he had sustained by some slight offence committed seven years ago. In addition to this, he had a letter, which he would read to the Bench, from the minister of St. Ann’s, the Rev. C. B. Twiss. (The letter was which was rather a lengthy one, was to the effect that the writer having heard it reported several times that Mr. *Tonks* kept a disorderly house, although he (the writer) did not approve of public houses, he considered it only just, between man and man, for him to state that Mr. *Tonks* had not conducted his house in any more disorderly a manner than other houses of a similar character in the trade.) Now when a gentleman, in the position of Mr. Twiss, went out of his way like that to do what he felt was simply an act of duty to a parishioner, he thought that should weigh very strongly with the Bench in considering the application, and also as a reply to anything might be urged against the character of his client by those opposed to him.

Mr. Young opposed the application on behalf of two neighbouring publicans, Mr. Putnam and Mr. Tipper. In reply to Mr. Underhill’s remarks he would say that his friend had not told the whole of the truth with regard to his client’s character, because the fact was that instead of only being summoned twice and fined once, he had also been fined twice in the year 1857 – once for permitting gambling, and once for keeping open at unlawful hours on a Sunday. He thought that was sufficient to decide the Magistrates in saying that he did not possess such a character as would justify their entrusting him with a license. Even the letter from the Rev. C. B. Twiss – about which so much had been said – did not show that *Tonks* did not keep a disorderly house, the writer contenting himself by stating that his house was not conducted ‘more disorderly’ than others in its class. He contended that the two licensed houses kept by Mr. Tipper and Mr. Putnam, both within a very short distance of the one occupied by Mr. *Tonks* supplied all the accommodation the neighbourhood required. If further proof were needed it was found in the fact, a very significant one, that another beerhouse, opposite the very church of which Mr. Twiss was incumbent, had been closed within the last six weeks. Mr. Hill after conferring with his brother Magistrates, said all the applications were refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton division of the county of Stafford was held yesterday.....

The applications for new spirit licenses were then considered.....

Mr. Langman requested a license for the SPRING VALE TAVERN, Spring Vale Street, Willenhall. The premises belonged to the applicant, who had kept the house for the last eight years without any offence against the tenour of his license. Mr. Thurstans objected to the application, for Mr. Tipper, GEORGE INN, and Mr. Putnam, SARACENS HEAD. The application had been made for several years in succession, and there was no need of additional accommodation. The request was refused, the Magistrates remarking that no circumstances had been stated which was not urged last year.”

1871 Census

St. Anns Lane

- [1] *Silas Tonks* (43), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Lucy Tonks* (41), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Eliza Tonks* (19), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Emily Tonks* (7), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Arthur R. Tonks* (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Ann Cope* (14), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Silas Tonks was also a brickmaker. [1872]

1881 Census

14, St. Anns Road

- [1] *Silas Tonks* (54), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Lucy Tonks* (51), wife, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Emily Tonks* (17), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Arthur Tonks (12), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Florence Mills (10), granddaughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Frederick Mills (8), grandson, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Henry Mills (6), grandson, scholar, born Willenhall:

Evening Express 7/3/1881

“On Saturday last H. Brevitt, Esq, deputy coroner, held an inquest at SPRING VALE TAVERN, Spring Bank on the body of Maria Evans (47), which was found in the canal on Wednesday.

Mrs. Mary Wilcox, Lane Head, said: I went on Sunday night to see John Turner, brother of the deceased. Maria Evans was there. She did not appear at all strange in her manner. Her two children were with her, and she asked them how they would like to stay there. She then left the room and went downstairs, but came up soon, when she immediately left the room again, asking her brother if she should close the door. I had never heard her say she would destroy herself.

Mr. P. B. Moseley proved the finding of the body of the deceased, on Wednesday, in the canal. The drag caught one of her boots, and they drew her carefully to the side. She had all her clothes on, and there were no marks of violence upon the body.

Mrs. Hannah Henry said: I have resided with Mrs. Evans for a fortnight as a lodger. I did so at the request of her friends, who wished me to take care of her as she appeared rather strange in her manner. I have seen her walk about moaning and crying over the loss of her husband, who has been dead ten months. I have never heard her say she would destroy herself. I last saw her alive in her own home on Sunday evening, when she appeared rather strange. She was going to see her brother at Lane Head, and I asked her to take the two children with her, which she did. I did not hear anything more of her until her niece and the two children returned from Lane Head and asked if their mother had come home. Two of her elder daughters looked for her, but she could not be found.

Information was given to the police on Tuesday, and her dead body was brought home on Wednesday. There were no marks of violence upon her. She had six children, two of whom are able to work. She owned two houses, and I never heard her complain of poverty; she had always plenty of food.

George Evans, son of the deceased (sworn), said, I work at the forge, and I last saw my mother alive on Sunday night; her manner was then much as usual. About a week ago she said she should not be there long; we should find her at the bottom of the canal. She made this statement quite of her own accord, myself and youngest sisters only being in the house. She would often wander about the house for a considerable length of time. Her manner has been very strange since my father’s death.

Phebe Evans, sworn, said: I am the eldest daughter of the deceased, and am a domestic servant at Wolverhampton. I last saw my mother alive on Wednesday week, when she seemed full of grief and in very low spirits. My mother has been very strange since my father’s death. I have never heard her say she would destroy herself. During the last six months I have been at home three times, and stayed two hours on each visit. My mother has walked about the house while I have been there.

Police-constable Dodge said deceased would have to get over a fence to get to the canal where she was found. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased was found dead in the Birmingham Canal, at Lane Head, and that she had no marks of violence upon her body; but how and by what means she got into the canal there is No Evidence to Show.”

Emily Tonks (23), spinster, Spring Bank, SPRING VALE TAVERN, married Henry *Handley* (25), bachelor, grocer, Spring Bank, SPRING VALE TAVERN, on 28th August 1887 in the Parish Church of St. Anne in the Township of Willenhall.

Silas Tonks died in the 4th quarter of 1888.

[Black Country Bugle 7/4/2021](#)

[Article by Steve James](#)

“RUSHBROOKE FARTHING, St. Annes Road, Willenhall *Silas* and *Lucy Tonks* were the parents of Joseph who became a renowned local surgeon (the ‘poor man’s doctor’). However, he died young after a balloon accident, and is commemorated by the clock and fountain in the town’s market place.”

[Staffordshire Advertiser 4/4/1891](#)

“The death is announced of Dr. Joseph Tonks, of Willenhall, at the early age of thirty-nine years. The deceased gentleman was one of the most prominent residents of the town, and had an extensive practice. Two years ago last summer he embarked on a balloon voyage on the occasion of the local horticultural fete. The balloon unfortunately, owing to the absence of wind, failed to clear a neighbouring manufacturer’s chimney stack, and Dr. Tonks received a serious injury which has been the cause of much anxiety to his friends and relatives ever since. Although he had received the best attention that medical science could provide, his system had never been able to surmount the strain received.”

1891 Census

35, St. Anns Road

- [1] *Lucy Tonks* (63), widow, landlady, born Wednesfield;
- [2] *Henry Handley* (29), son in law, grocer, born Kidderminster;
- [3] *Emily Handley* (27), wife, grocer's assistant, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Emily Mills* (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Horatio R. Handley* (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Minnie Handley* (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Susannah Fellows* (19), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Elizabeth Beaman* (13), nurse, born Sheffield:

1901 Census

13+14, St. Annes Road

- [1] *Emily Handley* (37), widow, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Horace Handley* (12), son, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Minnie Handley* (11), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Arthur E. Tonks* (32), brother, widower, physician and surgeon, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Emily J. Mills* (21), niece, barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Henry Mills* (26), nephew, dispenser, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Harriet Jobber* (19), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Emily Handley (40), widow, married *Jesse Lashford* (37), bachelor, commercial traveller, on 8th June 1907 at Monmouthshire.

Midlands Evening News 15/10/1909

"The members of the Spring Vale Bowling Club held their annual dinner on Thursday [12th October] at the SPRING VALE HOTEL, Willenhall....."

Emily Lashford's Brewery was here.

1911 Census

St. Anns Road – SPRING VALE TAVERN

- [1] *Emily Lashford* (47), married, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Horace H. Handley* (22), son, brewer, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Harry Mills* (36), nephew, assistant, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Emily Mills* (30), niece, barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Florence Haddock* (26), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

South Staffordshire Times 11/10/1919

"At the Police Court, on Saturday, William Duffield, 21, Raglan Street, Willenhall, a gas worker was charged with attempting to murder Gertrude Yates (32) by pushing her into the canal at Willenhall on October 3rd.

Inspector Beech said that the prisoner had been keeping company with the prosecutrix for about three years. At 7.30 on Friday evening he called at her house, and they subsequently went for a walk together. Prisoner called in at the SPRING VALE HOTEL to get a drink, and upon rejoining Yates, suggested they should go along the canal side, and call upon the latter's aunt at the WINDSOR CASTLE INN. They went along the canal from Monmore Lane, and when near the Navigation prisoner suggested they should stand a minute or two. They remained about three minutes, conversing upon their approaching marriage when prisoner suddenly caught hold of Yates by the shoulder, twisted her round without saying a word, and flung her into the canal. The woman shouted 'Help!' and 'Murder!' and, scrambling to the side, endeavored to get out, appealing to Duffield not to let her drown. Prisoner is stated then to have pushed the woman on the head with his foot back, into the water remarking, 'Get in you _____.'

Prisoner then went away, and the woman got out of the canal. Meeting some boys, they escorted her to her aunt's at the WINDSOR CASTLE. The Inspector added that, so far as he could gather, there had been no quarrel between the two.

Police-constable Rose deposed that at 8.55pm, he saw Yates at the WINDSOR CASTLE. The whole of her clothing was wet, and her hair also. He found prisoner at his lodgings. He informed him that he would have to accompany him to the Police Station. Duffield said, 'If I have done anything I will go with you, but I know I haven't. I left her by *Handley's*, and gave her a shilling to get some mushrooms for her supper. I haven't seen her since.'

At midnight witness cautioned and charged prisoner with attempting to murder Yates. He replied: I am innocent of this. If I go to prison over it I will go for something after. What do you mean attempted murder? Can you bring anyone to prove it? What are you talking about? Attempted murder! Are you mad? If I wanted to murder her I should have murdered her, not half-done it. She would not have got out if I had meant to do it. She had told me months ago there would be some trouble.

The magistrate (Mr. S. Lister) asked prisoner if he wished to ask the officer anything.

Prisoner: I want to tell you everything. I have been courting this young lady.

Mr. Lister: You are not being tried today so I do not think it will help you.

Prisoner: She told me more than twelve months ago if I did not have her she would drown herself.

Inspector Beech applied for prisoner to be remanded until Monday next. He said the man was a widower with two children, and the banns had been published for him to be married to prosecutrix on Sunday week. The inspector had seen the woman that morning; she was in bed suffering from shock, but the doctor thought she would be well enough to attend court on Monday.

Prisoner was then remanded, an application for bail being objected to by the police, and consequently refused. Mondays Hearing.

The case was again before the court on Monday, when Mr. Turton appeared for the defence. He said he had not sufficient time to prepare his defence to a serious charge of this kind, and had to ask for a remand for a week.

The prisoner was arrested on Friday night and brought before the justices on Saturday.

The magistrates announced that the case would be adjourned for a week, and the defendant would remain in custody.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/11/1919

“William Duffield, 43, a gas stoker, of 21, Raglan Street, Willenhall, was indicted for attempting to drown Gertrude Yates, with intent to murder her, at Willenhall, on Oct. 3. There was also an indictment charging him with assaulting her, and thereby causing her grievous bodily harm. The Hon. R. Coventry prosecuted and Mr. V. Graham Milward defended.

Mr. Coventry said he thought they would have no doubt that on Oct. 3 Mrs. Yates was thrown into the canal by somebody, and it was the duty of the jury to say whether or not that somebody was the accused. It was suggested that after throwing Yates into the canal the accused kicked her on the head to prevent her coming up again and when he thought he had ‘done the deed’ he departed, but, fortunately, Yates was rescued. Mrs. Yates is a widow with four children, and she has been keeping company with the prisoner for three years. She had tried to induce the prisoner to marry her, and he had promised to do so; in fact, the banns had been put up.

The defence was that the prisoner was not the man.

The jury, after retiring for a few minutes, found the prisoner not guilty, and he was discharged.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 24/10/1925

“A company numbering over 63 members and friends attended the annual dinner and prize distribution of the Willenhall and District Flying Club, held on Monday night, at the SPRING VALE HOTEL, Willenhall. Mr. James Holt (chairman of the club), presided, and the secretary (Mr. Ernest G. Fryer) reported a very successful season. The 23 members had flown no fewer than 1,794 birds in twelve races, and the prize money totaled over £60, a record for the club.....”

Black Country Bugle 7/4/2021

Article by Steve James

“RUSHBROOKE FARTHING, St. Annes Road, Willenhall *Emily and Jesse Lashford* expanded the brewery business and acquired a few more pubs, before diversifying into the leisure industry, converting an old football ground into a greyhound track. In 1932 the brewery, pub, seven tied houses and dog track were sold to Truman’s brewery for £34,500.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/3/1932

“A change over from football to greyhound racing will take place at Willenhall this weekend, for the well-known home of the former Willenhall Swifts Club, for many years members of the Birmingham and District League, has been converted into an up-to-date track.....

Members of the club and patrons of the bars at the stadium will find Truman’s well-known Burton Ales being served there, and at the SPRING VALE HOTEL near the stadium.”

1939 Register

St. Annes Road – SPRING VALE HOTEL

[1] *Albert Grant*, date of birth 9/11/1881, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Maud Grant*, dob 27/12/1883, housewife, married;

[3] *Maud Smith*, dob 9/3/1908, bar general, single;

[4] *John Smith*, dob 9/3/1879, incapacitated through illness, married:

1943 Probate

“*Albert Grant*, of SPRING VALE HOTEL, St. Annes Road, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 21 April 1943. Administration Birmingham 24 June to *Maud Grant*, widow. Effects £1,117 15s 5d.”

Mike Jones was married to *Judith*.

Its name was changed to the RUSHBROOKE FARTHING. [1976]

[2007]

Closed [2008], [2016]

SARACENS HEAD

58, (104), Bloxwich Road South, (Monmore Lane), Little London, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Daniel Thompson [1841] – [1850]
Emanuel Fereday [1850] – **1851**;
Miss Rebecca Putnam (**1851** – []
John Putnam Snr.* [1851] – [1862]
Miss Betsy Putnam [1860] – **1861**);
John Putnam* (**1861** – **1877**);
Abraham Gardner (**1877** – []
Thomas Lawrence (**1884** – []
William Hugh Lawrence (**1887** – [1892]
William Turner [1896]
Edward Scarlett [1901] – [1912]
John J Perry [1916]
Joseph Benjamin Male [1921] – [1922]
William Lyster [1932] – [1949]
W J Morgan [1976]
J Parker [1983]

NOTES

Monmore Lane [1841], [1850], [1851]
104, Bloxwich Road [1891], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1932], [1939], [1940]
104, Bloxwich Road South [1949]
58, Bloxwich Road South [1990]

1841 Census

Monmore Lane

[1] Daniel Thompson (30), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] Ann Thompson (25), born Staffordshire;

[3] Sarah Thompson (5), born Staffordshire:

Daniel Thompson was also an iron and brass padlock maker. [1845]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/4/1847

“An inquest was held on Wednesday last at the SARACENS HEAD, Willenhall, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Richard Read, a padlock maker, about 82 years of age. The poor old man had been found on the previous Friday, lying near the fire upon the floor of an upstairs room in the house where he lived, with his clothes in flames. The deceased was very badly burnt, and died on Wednesday morning from the injuries he had received. He had been alone in the room, sitting near the fire, and was a very infirm old man. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1850

“James Cooper, Joseph Cooper, and Joseph Cooper, sen. were each ordered to find sureties, and to enter into their own recognizances to keep the peace, and pay the costs incurred by attendance of Mr. E. Fereday, of the SARACENS HEAD, Little London, to prosecute them for assaulting him on Monday night last. The expenses, in each case, amounted to £1 7s 6d.”

London Gazette 21/11/1851

“Whereas a Petition of Emanuel Fereday, at present and for three weeks now last past residing in lodgings in Littles-lane, in Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford, out of business, and for six months previously thereto residing at the KINGS ARMS INN, in Walsall-street, Willenhall, in the county aforesaid, carrying on there the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, and Plumber and Glazier, and for two years previous thereto residing at the SARACENS HEAD INN, in Little London, near Willenhall aforesaid, carrying on there the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, and Plumber and Glazier, and for six months previously thereto residing in Bell-street, in Wolverhampton aforesaid, carrying on there the trade or business of a Plumber and Glazier, and for six months previous thereto residing at the GIFFARDS ARMS INN, at Codsall Wood, in the parish of Codsall, in the county of Stafford aforesaid, carrying on there the trade or business of a Licensed Victualler, an insolvent debtor, having been

filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at the Courthouse, Queen-street, at Wolverhampton, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Emanuel Fereday*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Emanuel Fereday* is hereby required to appear before Nathaniel Richard Clarke, Esq., Serjeant at Law, the Judge of the said Court, on the 25th of November instant, at twelve at noon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Emanuel Fereday*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Charles Gallimore Brown, Clerk of the said Court, at his office, in Queen-street, Wolverhampton, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent."

Emanuel Fereday – see also **KINGS ARMS**.

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/4/1853 - Marriages

"On April 15, at the Collegiate church, Wolverhampton, Mr. Mark Davis, of Portobello, Willenhall, to Miss *Rebecca Putnam*, of the SARACENS HEAD INN, Little London, Willenhall."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/3/1858

"At the Petty Sessions on Thursday, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough Esq., George Marygold and David Haycroft were brought up charged with passing base money. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. *Putnam* of the SARACENS HEAD, Willenhall, that Marygold went there and asked for something to drink, tendering a bad florin in payment. It was refused and given back to him The prisoners, who were labourers, one living at Moxley and the other at the Sand Holes, were remanded, in order that the Mint authorities might be communicated with."

* probably the same person

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/11/1860 - Deaths

"On the 8th instant, after a short but severe illness, aged 56 years, Sarah, the beloved and affectionate wife of Mr. *John Putnam*, of the SARACENS HEAD INN, Little London, Willenhall."

Betsy Putnam = Betsey Putnam

1861 Census

Bloxwich Road – SARACENS HEAD

- [1] *John Putnam* (59), widower, tailor, born Wandsworth, Surrey;
- [2] *Betsy Putnam* (26), daughter, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [3] *John Putnam* (22), son, butcher, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Sarah Evans* (24), general servant, born Princes End:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

"Mr. Thurstans next applied for a license to the SPRING VALE TAVERN, in Ann-street, Willenhall, kept by Mr. Silas Tonks. Since 1856, he said, the population had increased by upwards of 600, and within an area of a few acres the number of inhabitants was 1,235. A number of streets in this locality were without public-house accommodation, and his client's house was eligibly situated for supplying the wants of the dwellers in those streets.

Mr. Thurstans also applied for a license on the part of Mr. Brown, the owner of a house in Spring vale-street, and said that all the remarks he had made in support of Tonk's application would apply with equal force to that of Mr. Brown. He submitted that the public convenience called for the granting of a license in one of the cases.

Mr. Underhill opposed Mr. Tonks's application on the part of Mr. *Putnam*, of the SARACENS HEAD, and Mr. Tipper, of the GEORGE. He said the house at present occupied by the applicant was a nuisance to the neighbours, and a fatal objection to the application was that the house in respect of which the application was that the house was in an unfinished state. He contended that there was no occasion for even one additional license in the locality. The Bench declined to entertain either application."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

"At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division, Seisdon North, held yesterday. . . .

Mr. Thurstans supported the application of Mr. Tonks; Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mr. Tipper, of the GEORGE INN, and Mr. *Putnam*, of the SARACENS HEAD. On behalf of the applicant, Mr. Thurstans spoke of the increase in the population in the locality where his client's house was situated, and also produced a certificate testifying that he was a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license. Mr. Thurstans also applied on behalf of Thomas Brown, of the BIRD IN HAND, situated in the same street as the last applicant's house. This house was stated to be large and newly erected. He said he hardly expected that both the applications would be granted; but he would leave it with the Bench to decide which of the premises were most eligible. Mr. Underhill opposed as before, and stated that he had taken the precaution to inquire as to the applicant's character from Inspector Thompson, with the view of ascertaining in what way he had conducted his house. Mr. Thurstans objected to any statement being made unless it was afterwards proved in evidence. After some other remarks had been made, Mr. Underhill expressed his willingness to leave the matter in the hands of the magistrates, when they had seen Inspector Thompson and heard what he had to say upon the subject."

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton division of the county of Stafford was held yesterday.....

The applications for new spirit licenses were then considered.....

Mr. Langman requested a license for the SPRING VALE TAVERN, Spring Vale Street, Willenhall. The premises belonged to the applicant, who had kept the house for the last eight years without any offence against the tenour of his license. Mr. Thurstans objected to the application, for Mr. Tipper, GEORGE INN, and Mr. *Putnam*, SARACENS HEAD. The application had been made for several years in succession, and there was no need of additional accommodation. The request was refused, the Magistrates remarking that no circumstances had been stated which was not urged last year.”

1871 Census

30, Bloxwich Road

[1] *John Putnam* (69), widower, innkeeper, SARACENS HEAD, born Wandsworth, Surrey:

[2] *Betsey Putnam* (34), daughter, born Willenhall;

[3] Sarah Ann Putnam (27), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] Mary Aston (18), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

104, Bloxwich Road

[1] *William H. Lawrence* (27), brewer, born Willenhall;

[2] Kate Lawrence (28), wife, born Brierley Hill;

[3] Clara Lawrence (1), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] Emma Tonks (13), general servant, born Willenhall:

William Lawrence – see also MANDAMUS, Walsall.

1901 Census

Bloxwich Road – SARACENS HEAD INN

[1] *Edward Scarlett* (57), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[2] Sarah A. Scarlett (53), wife, born Bilston;

[3] Kate Goodall (37), adopted daughter, born Bilston;

[4] Edward Scarlett (17), son, carpenter's apprentice, born Pendlebury, Lancashire;

[5] Fanny Scarlett (15), daughter, born Pendlebury, Lancashire:

1911 Census

104, Bloxwich Road

[1] *Edward Scarlett* (67), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] Sarah Ann Scarlett (62), wife, married 41 years, assisting in business, born Bilston;

[3] Edward Scarlett (27), son, carpenter and joiner, born Pendlebury, Lancashire;

[4] Fanny Scarlett (24), daughter, dressmaker, born Pendlebury, Lancashire;

[5] Kate Goodall (48), general servant, born Bilston;

[6] Daisy Meeson (17), general servant, born Willenhall:

South Staffordshire Times 4/2/1922

“Willenhall Police Court.....

George Hall, formerly a farm bailiff of Ashmore Park Cottage, Wednesfield, was charged with obtaining one pint of ale, value 7d, by false pretences from Edith *Male*, of the SARACENS HEAD INN, on the 20th ult.

Prosecutrix, the wife of *Joseph Benjamin Male*, said the defendant came to the house on the morning of the 20th ult., and asked for a pint of beer. She took it to him in the taproom. He began to search his pockets saying he ought to have a pound note in one of them, but he must have left it either in another coat, or on the table at his own house. He then said he passed the house every day, and would pay for the beer on the following day. He entered into a conversation about supplying a rabbit, or a fowl, and prosecutrix said she would have one from him if the price were reasonable. He said he could let her have a fowl for 2s 6d. When defendant left the house prosecutrix became a bit suspicious especially as she saw him enter another public-house and she sent a niece to inform the landlord what had happened.

PC Craddock said he saw defendant at his house in Wednesfield and charged him with the offence. He replied, ‘All right.’

Defendant pleaded guilty, and said he was willing to pay for the ale.

There were three similar charges against defendant in connection with the BLACK LION INN, the BEEHIVE, and the WHITE SWAN, to which defendant also pleaded guilty.

In the first case defendant was fined £1 and costs, and ordered to pay costs in each of the other cases, a total of £4 15s.

Supt. Higgs said that complaints of similar conduct against defendant were made in November and December last, and it was a practice that ought to be stopped. Defendant had rendered himself liable under the new Act, to a penalty of £30 for consuming ale before paying for it.”

1939 Register

104, Bloxwich Road

- [1] *William Lyster*, date of birth 18/7/1861, licensed victualler, widowed;
- [2] Walter Taylor, dob 27/6/1885, locksmith, married;
- [3] Amy Elizabeth Taylor, dob 25/12/1888, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [4] Ronald Taylor, dob 22/3/1911, tool maker, single;
- [5] William Norman Taylor, dob 28/6/1912, electrical engineer, single;
- [6] Shirley Taylor, dob 21/12/1914, metal pattern maker, single;
- [7] Mabel Elizabeth Taylor, dob 9/9/1919, clerk, single;
- [8] Mary Irene Taylor, dob 21/6/1921, clerk, single:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall (Butlers) Darts League. [1946]

1949 Probate

“*William Lyster*, of the SARACENS HEAD, 104 Bloxwich Road South, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 18 July 1949. Administration Birmingham 24 October to Amy Elizabeth Taylor (wife of Walter Taylor). Effects £1,580 2s 6d.”

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn-Quiz. [1979], [1980]

[1998]

Closed [2003]

It was demolished in 2004.

SARACENS HEAD

Manor Farm Drive, Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1997]

SEVEN STARS

18, (17), (14), Brick Kiln Street / North Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edward Willetts [1869] – [1876]

Humphrey Williams (1885 – []

Thomas Hughes [1901] – [1911]

Thomas ‘Tom’ Everitt [1939] – [1941]

Walter Benjamin Everitt [1963]

NOTES

14, Brick Kiln Street [1871]

17, Brick Kiln Street [1901], [1904], [1911], [1939], [1941]

18, Brick Kiln Street [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Edward Willetts, SEVEN STARS, Portobello, 40s and costs.”

1871 Census

14, Brick Kiln Street

- [1] *Edward Willetts* (36), grocer and beerhouse keeper, employing 1 assistant, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Mary Willetts* (10), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Edward Willetts* (6), son, scholar, born Portobello;
- [4] *Sarah Ann Willetts* (4), daughter, scholar, born Portobello;
- [5] *Sarah Willetts* (65), mother, widow, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Sarah Ann Willetts* (13), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Frank Ward* (16), grocers assistant, born Willenhall:

London Gazette 2/6/1876

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Edward Willetts*, of Brickiln-street, Portobello, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Grocer and Beerhouse Keeper.

Notice is hereby given, that a Second General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. George Cresswell, Solicitor, the New-road, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, on the 9th day of June, 1876, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely.

Dated this 29th day of May, 1876.

George Cresswell, the New-road, Willenhall, Solicitor for the said *Edward Willetts*.”

Evening Star 20/2/1882

“*Samuel Jones* of Moseley Village, was fined 10s and costs (10s 6d) for being drunk in the SEVEN STARS Inn, Portobello, on Saturday night the 11th inst.”

1901 Census

17, Brick Kiln Street – SEVEN STARS

- [1] *Thomas Hughes* (51), beerhouse keeper and grocer, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Hughes* (56), wife, born Ettingshall;
- [3] *John T. Bristow* (22), stepson, rim lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Bristow* (19), stepson, carpenter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Emily Hughes* (12), daughter, born Willenhall:

Thomas Hughes, beer retailer, 17, Brick Kiln Street. [1904]

1911 Census

17, Brickkiln Street – SEVEN STARS

- [1] *Thomas Hughes* (62), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Hughes* (66), wife, married 23 years, born Bilston;
- [3] *Emily Hughes* (22), daughter, born Willenhall:

1939 Register

17, Brickkiln Street – SEVEN STARS

- [1] *Thomas Everitt*, date of birth 12/12/1877, beerhouse keeper, widowed;
- [2] *John G. Everitt*, dob 1/11/1901, locksmith general, single;
- [3] *Walter B. Everitt*, dob 15/5/1917, bench hand, drop forging, single:

1941 Probate

“*Thomas Everitt*, of SEVEN STARS INN, 17 Brickkiln Street, Portobello, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 8 March 1941. Administration Birmingham 8 May to *Mary Rogers* (wife of *Thomas Rogers*). Effects £775 1s 2d.”

SEVEN STARS

OWNERS

Frank Myatt, Limited [1926]

LICENSEES

Richard Wright [1873]
Rogers [1880]
Roger Newbould [1881]
Arthur Newton (1885 – []
J Parker (1887 – []
James Fry [1892]
Thomas Dixon [1896]
John Sault [1901]
Albert Thomas Dixon [1904] – [1908]
Francis Hadlyn Roberts [1911] – [1912]
John Walsh [1912]
William Lloyd [1926]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Post 12/2/1873

“The ordinary fortnightly meeting of the local board was held on Monday.....

In accordance a recommendation of the Magistrates’ Clerk, it was resolved that the SEVEN STARS INN, Doctors Piece, in the occupation of *Richard Wright*, should be treated as an unregistered lodging-house, and that the landlord should be ordered to have it registered.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/4/1880 - Advert

“A good Beerhouse to Let. In-going and rent moderate.
Apply, *Rogers*, SEVEN STARS, Doctors Piece, Willenhall.”

1881 Census

32, Doctors Piece

- [1] *Roger Newbould* (36), manager of brick yard & publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Esther Newbould* (29), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *John Newbould* (10), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *William Newbould* (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Eliza A. Newbould* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Alice M. Newbould* (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Adalaide M. Newbould* (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Arthur R. Newbould* (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Jane A. Hemingsley* (16), born Willenhall:

1901 Census

32, Doctors Piece

- [1] *John Sault* (32), innkeeper and tool maker, born Wednesfield;
- [2] *Clara Sault* (29), wife, born Crownholm, Derbyshire;
- [3] *Gladys Sault* (6), daughter, born Wednesfield;
- [4] *Jane Sault* (2), daughter, born Wednesfield;
- [5] *Ada Blewitt* (19), domestic servant, born Essington:

1911 Census

32, Doctors Piece – SEVEN STARS

- [1] *Francis Hayden Roberts* (30), carrier, born THREE TUNS, King Street, Willenhall;
- [2] *Esther Eva Roberts* (26), wife, married 7 years, born Lucknow, Willenhall;
- [3] *Sarah Shepherd* (18), sister in law, unmarried, warehouse girl, born Lucknow, Willenhall;

[4] Nellie Roberts (4), daughter, born NEPTUNE INN, Willenhall:

Francis Hadlyn Roberts, beer retailer, 32, Doctors Piece. [1912]

John Walsh, beer retailer, 32, Doctors Piece. [1912]

Bilston & Willenhall Times 7/11/1925

“At 12.45pm on Saturday last, PC Thorpe visited Doctor’s Piece, Willenhall, and saw John Harris, of Level Lane, Willenhall, drunk and behaving in a disorderly manner. Two panes of glass in the SEVEN STARS licensed house were broken and some small bricks had been pulled from the pavement. The defendant had his jacket off and this garment, with his cap, was lying on the pavement. He was making use of filthy language and when the officer spoke to him, he said he would ‘Kill all the coppers in Willenhall.’ Thorpe arrested him, and subsequently found a piece of brick in the bar of the SEVEN STARS. When asked why he had behaved in such a manner, he replied ‘I did it because I wanted a night’s ‘kip’.’ He was brought before the Willenhall magistrates on Monday and the chairman (Mr. J. Legge) told him he was behaving very badly for a young man. He had been before the court before for being drunk and disorderly. Defendant was fined 25s for each offence, and ordered to pay 10s damage, and 7s 6d a witness’s costs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/7/1926 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County of Stafford.

Notice as to sending in Claims to be treated as Persons Interested in Licensed Premises.

Notice is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 28th day of June and the 12th day of July, 1926, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below.....

SEVEN STARS, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *William Lloyd*. Registered Owner, Frank Myatt Limited.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/12/1926

“The Licensing Committee for the County have fixed the following sums as compensation.....

SEVEN STARS, Willenhall, ante '69 beerhouse, £700.”

SEVEN STARS

16, Sandbeds, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Tuberville [1864] – [1872]

John Corkindale [1881]

Thomas Allman (1883 – []

S Vaughan (1884 – []

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

William Tuberville, beer retailer, Sandbeds. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

William Tuberville, SEVEN STARS, Willenhall, 1s and costs.”

1871 Census

Sandbeds – SEVEN STARS

[1] *William Tuberville* (36), roll turner and publican, born Kinver;

[2] *Kezia Tuberville* (39), wife, born Bilston;

- [3] Frederick Tuberville (10), son, scholar, born Bilston;
- [4] Georgina Tuberville (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Clara Tuberville (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] William Tuberville (3), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Amy Davenport (18), general servant, born Bloxwich:

1881 Census

16, Sandbeds – SEVEN STARS

- [1] *John Corkindale* (59), keysmith and publican, born Willenhall;
 - [2] *Emma Corkindale* (56), wife, born Kings Norton;
 - [3] *Albert Corkindale* (24), son, keysmith, born Willenhall;
 - [4] *Florence Corkindale* (20), daughter, barmaid, born Willenhall;
 - [5] *John Corkindale* (17), son, keysmith, born Willenhall;
 - [6] *Enoch Corkindale* (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [By 1891, Florence had married shoemaker, Harry B. Jobber, and lived at Walsall Road. Her widowed mother also lived with her.]

Closed

SHAKESPEARE

Brickkiln Street, Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Davis [\[1852\]](#) – [1854]

NOTES

1851 Census

Bricklyn Street

- [1] George Davis (44), coal miner, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Martha Davis (45), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Esther Jones (94), mother in law, born Bilston;
- [4] Ann Perry (20), servant, born Bilston;
- [5] George Edwards (3), nephew, born Bilston;
- [6] Mary Reves (58), visitor, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] John Reves (30), visitor, gun finisher, born Birmingham;
- [8] Sarah Reves (29), visitor, born Birmingham;
- [9] Thomas Haws (28), visitor, pump maker, born Birmingham;
- [10] Elizabeth Haws (24), visitor, born Kingheath, Warwickshire:

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852](#)

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Mr. Pinchard applied for Mr. W. Perry, of the RED LION, Brickkiln Street, Portobello, stating in the course of his remarks, that the rent of the house was £31 a year, and the number of houses in that locality had very much increased.

Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mr. *George Davis*, in the same street. He stated that there were 120 houses already inhabited, that his client’s house cost £800 and that it afforded more accommodation than that of Mr. Perry. He handed in a testimonial signed by several of the inhabitants and also a letter from the Rev. T. W. Fletcher who observed that in his opinion no candidate from the district had greater claims or was more worthy of being trusted with a license.

Mr. Hayes opposed both applications on behalf of Mr. Fisher, landlord of the BIRD IN HAND, and of Mr. Siddons, of the GOUGH’S ARMS, Portobello. There were only 1,039 houses in that part of Portobello, and the number of houses in the entire district of St. Stephen, which went up to the Market Place, in Willenhall, was 2,826.

Mr. Underhill replied, stating that for every thousand inhabitants there was only one licensed house. The district had been increasing for the last few years. Mr. Pinchard also replied, observing that he thought other innkeepers ought to act upon the principle of

'Live and let live.'

The Magistrates, after some consideration, refused both applications."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

"Mr. Underhill applied for a license to the SHAKESPEARE INN, Brickkiln Street, Portobello, on behalf of Mr. *George Davis*, the occupant. The population around this house had considerably increased, and not a single spirit license had been granted in this neighbourhood for eight or ten years. At the present time there were only three licensed houses in the locality. Mr. Manby opposed the application for the old licensed innkeepers of the neighbourhood, on the ground that there was no necessity for another license being granted, there being already four licensed houses in the same locality. There was another ground of objection, namely, that the applicant was a butty miner, having a number of men under him, who assembled at his house and spent a great deal of money which ought not to be spent. Application refused.

Mr. Whitehouse next made application on behalf of Mr. W. Perry, of the RED LION, situated immediately opposite the house for a license to which application had just been made. The Premises were extensive, and were rated at £27 or £28. The application was opposed by Mr. Manby, on behalf of the same parties as those by whom he was instructed in the previous case, and on similar grounds. According to his instructions Mr. Perry was only rated at £16. Refused.

Mr. Underhill renewed his application on behalf of Mr. Hall for a license to the BRIDGE TAVERN. Mr. Manby opposed on behalf of the same parties and on similar grounds to those mentioned in the previous cases. Refused.

Mr. Guy, who had given notice to apply for a license to his house, withdrew his notice."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/9/1854 - Deaths

"September 9, at the SHAKESPEARE INN, Portobello, Willenhall, the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. *George Davis*, with whom she had lived upwards of twenty years, Mrs. Esther Jones, in her 99th year of age. The deceased retained her faculties in a wonderful degree till near the time of her departure. She could read the Testament without the aid of glasses till a comparatively recent period. An immediate ancestor of the deceased attained the patriarchal age of 102 years."

SHAKESPEARE

Dudley Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1908]

SHAKESPEARE

78, (21), Lower Lichfield Street / Locksmith Close (Union Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Atkinsons Ltd. [1928]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Job Low [1859]
Benjamin Pitt [1861] – 1869);
John Ragdale (1869 – []
Sydney Wright [1871] – [1891]
Ernest Clarke [1904]
William Carter [1911] – [1912]
Arthur Robinson [1932] – [1940]

Jack Rushton [] – 1974);
Robert Kenneth ‘Bob’ Smith (1974 – 1980);
Marshall Powell (1980 – []

NOTES

21, Lower Lichfield Street [1871]
78, Lower Lichfield Street [1891], [1911], [1939], [1940]
Union Street [1908]

SHAKESPEARES INN [1861]
SHAKESPEARS ARMS [1871]
SHAKESPEARE TAVERN [1874], [1911]

It was known locally as ‘The Shake’.

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/4/1859

“On Wednesday morning a special sitting of the Justices, the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq, was held at the Police Office, for the purpose of adjudicating upon a number of cases under the Weights and Measures Act. The following is the result of the investigation, costs being granted in each case.....

Job Low, SHAKESPEARE INN, Portobello, unstamped measures, 6s.”

1861 Census

Lower Lichfield Street
[1] *Benjamin Pitt* (29), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
[2] *Sophia Pitt* (24), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] *Eliza Pedley* (19), general servant, born Willenhall:

Benjamin Pitt, retailer of beer, Lower Lichfield Street. [1862]

Benjamin Pitt, beer retailer, Lower Lichfield Street. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

Sydney Wright = Sidney Wright

1871 Census

21, Lower Lichfield Street – SHAKESPEARS ARMS
[1] *Sydney Wright* (29), blacksmith, born Willenhall;
[2] *Jane Wright* (32), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] *Susannah Burrows* (16), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Sidney Wright, beer retailer, Lower Lichfield Street. [1872]

1891 Census

78, Lower Lichfield Street – SHAKESPEARE INN
[1] *Sidney Wright* (49), publican, born Willenhall;
[2] *Margaret Wright* (30), wife, born Southport, Lancashire;
[3] *Sidney W. Wright* (4 months), son, born Willenhall;
[4] *Emily L. Marsh* (19), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
[5] *Mary Loftus* (18), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Ernest Clarke, beer retailer, 78, Lower Lichfield Street. [1904]

1911 Census

78, Lower Lichfield Street
[1] *William Carter* (59), publican, born Leicester;
[2] *Ann Carter* (55), wife, married 29 years, assisting in the business, born Leicester:

William Carter, beer retailer, 78, Lower Lichfield Street. [1912]

Bilston and Willenhall Times 21/4/1928

“At the County Licensing Confirmation Committee at Stafford on Thursday, application by John Moran for the removal of the full license of the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall, to the SHAKESPEARE INN, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall (a

beerhouse), was supported by Mr. R. Harris (representing Messrs. Atkinson, the owners), and opposed by Mr. Arthur Ward (for Messrs. Myatt, owners of the STAR, Lower Lichfield Street).

The latter cross-examined witnesses to show that within 250 yards of the SHAKESPEARE there was 19 licensed houses, viz 8 full licenses; whilst in the last eight years, 8 houses had been closed in the same radius on the grounds of redundancy. The application for confirmation was refused.”

Arthur Robinson, beer retailer, 78, Lower Lichfield Street. [1932]

1939 Register

78, Lower Lichfield Street – Beerhouse

[1] *Arthur Robinson*, date of birth 6/9/1877, beer seller, widowed;

[2] Violet (Wilcox) Robinson, dob 18/9/1886, housekeeper, widowed:

Walsall Observer 20/10/1967

“A short thunderstorm and torrential rain caused flooding of many houses and roads in Walsall.....

A flooded basement at the SHAKESPEARE public house, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall, was pumped dry.”

Jack Rushton was married to Margaret.

Robert Kenneth Smith was married to June.

See also BRIDGE.

[1982]

It closed in 1983.

It was demolished in 1994.

SHAKESPEARE

5, Somerford Place (Wolverhampton Road) / Summer Street / Pinson Road, (New Road), Somerford, (Portobello), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Johnson and Phipps [c.1935]

J. P. Simpkins and Son

Davenport's Brewery Ltd. (acquired in 1982)

Burtonwood [1991]

LICENSEES

Enoch Williams [1869] – **1870**);

Eliza Williams (**1870 – 1873**);

Job Broadbent (**1873** – [1891]

William Thomas [1901] – [1904]

S Hobbey [1908]

Charles Hobbey [1912]

William Harold Martin [1940]

George Matthews [1976]

Andrew le Bas [2007]

NOTES

5, Summerford Place [1881], [1891], [1940]

Summerford Place [1901]

4, Somerford Place

New Road [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was the headquarters of Willenhall Pickwick FC.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Enoch Williams, SHAKESPEARE, Willenhall, 5s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/7/1870 - Deaths

“On the 11th inst, aged 39 years, Mr. *Enoch Williams*, blacksmith, of the SHAKESPEARE TAVERN, near Willenhall.”

1871 Census

46, Wolverhampton Road

- [1] *Eliza Williams* (34), widow, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Emily Williams* (17), daughter, born Portobello;
- [3] *Jabez Williams* (12), son, scholar, born Portobello;
- [4] *Eliza Williams* (9), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Rosetta Williams* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Louisa Aston* (16), domestic servant, born Portobello:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

“Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Beerhouses: *Eliza Williams*, SHAKESPEARE, Willenhall.....”

1881 Census

5, Summerford Place

- [1] *Job Broadbent* (39), beerhouse keeper, born Bushbury;
- [2] *Eliza Broadbent* (46), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ellen A. Broadbent* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Elvira Williams* (14), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Louisa Pratt* (26), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

5, Somerford Place

- [1] *Job Broadbent* (49), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Eliza Broadbent* (56), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Helen A. Broadbent* (17), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Edith R. Williams* (32), stepdaughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Elizabeth R. Cooper* (19), general servant, born Willenhall:

Job Broadbent was also a brewer.

1901 Census

Summerford Place – SHAKESPEARE INN

- [1] *William Thomas* (34), publican and coal agent, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Edith Rosetta Thomas* (33), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *William Thomas* (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Norah Thomas* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Gertrude Reeves* (21), general servant, born Willenhall:

Wednesbury Leader 10/8/1901

“The annual meeting of the Willenhall Pickwick Football Club has been held at the SHAKESPEARE INN, when Mr. Noah Haynes, in the unavoidable absence of the President (Councillor Somerville), presided The Secretary (Mr. Langford) in his report said the support of the public during the last season seemed to be on the decrease week by week, and in consequence the receipts at the home matches fell considerably below any record they could show. The success was all owing to the hard work the committee did, who left no stone unturned in helping to wipe off the debt which was so glaring a year ago.....”

William Thomas, beer retailer, 5, Somerford Place. [1904]

[Was S. Hobbey really Charles Hobleby?]

Charles Hobley = Charles Hobbey

Charles Hobley was secretary of Willenhall Pickwick FC.

Charles Hobley, beer retailer, 5, Somerford Place. [1912]

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1937

“Twelve applications for the confirmation of licence removals remained to be heard by the Staffordshire Licensing Confirmation Committee when they resumed their sitting at Stafford on Tuesday. Sir William Goodwin (chairman) presided.....

The justices approved six removals in the Willenhall Division. In several cases it was stated that the licence would be transferred from old houses in congested areas to modern premises in newly developed districts. In consideration the brewery companies would surrender other licences. The removals were as follows.....

Removal of the beer licence of SHAKESPEARE INN, Wolverhampton Road, Somerford, to premises to be erected or reconstructed in Wolverhampton Road, Somerford, at present forming the site of the house known as Rivoli.”

[2008]

Closed [2010]

It was demolished in October 2011.

SPREAD EAGLE

73, Walsall Road, (73, (5), Walsall Street), (Church Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Julia Hanson and Sons Limited [1912]

LICENSEES

James Hodson [1833] – [1834]

Lucy Hodson [1841]

Edward Wootton [1863]

Thomas Woodcock [1860] – 1870);

Isaiah Taylor (1870 – 1873);

George Ratcliff (1873 – 1874);

Thomas Hodson (1874 – []

Eliza (Day) Brotherton [] – 1881);

Fanny Day (1881 – []

Philip Ordidge [1891] – [1904]

Herbert Alfred Ordidge [1911] – [1912]

NOTES

5, Walsall Street [1871]

73, Walsall Street [1891], [1896], [1901], [1904]

73, Walsall Road [1881], [1912]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

James Hodson = James Hodgson

James Hodson, brass cabinet locksmith and retail brewer, Church Street. [1833]

1841 Census

Walsall Street

[1] *Lucy Hodson* (30), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] James Hodson (5), born Staffordshire:

Lucy Hodson, beer retailer, Church Street.

Thomas Woodcock, beer retailer, Walsall Street. [1860], [1861], [1865], [1870]

Thomas Woodcock, retailer of beer, Walsall Street. [1862]

Edward Wootton = Edward Wooton

Birmingham Daily Post 4/9/1863

“At Wolverhampton Petty Sessions, yesterday, *Edward Wootton*, proprietor of the SPREAD EAGLE, Willenhall, charged with unlawfully keeping open his house on the night of the 17th ult, was fined 10s and costs. In this case it was shown that the defendant had attempted to bribe the policeman by offering him ale to drink, hence the enhanced amount of the fine.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/9/1863

“*Edward Wooton*, of the SPREAD EAGLE, appeared in answer to a summons charging him with keeping open house after hours on the 17th ult.

The evidence of the constable went to show that on the night of the 17th ult he paid a nocturnal visit to defendant’s house. When he got there it was about fifteen minutes past twelve o’clock. In the bar he found three men and five women drinking; two of them apparently drunk. There was a jug and several glasses upon the table, all of them containing ale. *Wooton* was present, and witness asked him if he knew what time it was. He said pretty nearly twelve o’clock, and asked the policeman if he would have a glass of ale. That being refused, he asked him to have a bottle of ginger beer, which he also declined. *Wooton* then said, ‘Well, I suppose it will be all right?’ to which witness answered that he did not know. When the officer got outside, he followed him, and again asked him if it would be all right. The witness gave him the same answer as before.

The defendant now said that the parties found in the house with him were all friends, and included his own mother, sisters-in-law, their friends, his wife and servant.

The magistrates, after hearing a witness on his behalf, said they thought the case fully proved, and in consequence of the attempt he made to bribe the policeman to a neglect of duty they would fine him heavier than the last case. Ordered to pay a fine of 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Thomas Woodcock, SPREAD EAGLE, Willenhall, 1s and costs.”

1871 Census

5, Walsall Street – SPREAD EAGLE

[1] *George Ratcliff* (40), coal miner out of employ, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Harriet Ratcliff* (40), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Sarah Ratcliff* (17), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Samuel Ratcliff* (13), son, miner in colliery, born Darlaston;

[5] *Richard Ratcliff* (10), son, born Willenhall;

[6] *Charlotte Ratcliff* (7), daughter, born Willenhall;

[7] *William Giles* (21), boarder, miner in colliery, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1872

“Yesterday, the annual Licensing Sessions for the Wolverhampton Division of the County of Stafford was held at the Agricultural Hall, in that town The record of convictions against licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers for the 12 months was as follows Beerhouses: *Isaiah Taylor*, SPREAD EAGLE, Willenhall.....”

1881 Census

73, Walsall Road – SPREAD EAGLE

[1] *Joseph Day* (63), pointsman on railway (unemployed), born Leicester;

[2] *Mary Day* (50), wife, born Newton Arcott, Leicestershire;

[3] *Eliza Day* (24), daughter, publican, born Stoke on Trent;

[4] *John Day* (20), son, plumber, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *Fanny Day* (18), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[6] *Lizzie Howl* (21), general servant, born Birmingham:

Evening Express 21/7/1881 - Advert

“Wanted, a Pianist, for Saturday and Monday Nights; a woman preferred.

SPREAD EAGLE, Willenhall.”

Eliza Day married Joseph Brotherton in the 3rd quarter of 1881.

Philip Ordidge = Philip Ordridge

1891 Census

73, Walsall Street

- [1] *Philip Ordidge* (54), rim lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [2] Ann Ordidge (50), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] Job Ordidge (24), son, iron caster, born Walsall;
- [4] George H. Ordidge (20), son, iron caster, born Lane Head;
- [5] *Herbert Ordidge* (14), son, iron caster, born Lane Head;
- [6] Emma Ordidge (12), daughter, scholar, born Lane Head;
- [7] Annie Law (2), granddaughter, born Willenhall:

Philip Ordidge, beer retailer, 73, Walsall Street. [1904]

Herbert Ordidge = Henry Ordridge

1911 Census

73, Walsall Street

- [1] *Herbert Alfred Ordidge* (34), cooper (iron) and licensed victualler, born Lane Head;
- [2] Clara Ordidge (27), wife, married 6 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] Herbert Samuel Ordidge (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Philip Henry Ordidge (1), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Samuel Smith (47), boarder, carter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Maria Smith (66), wife, born Willenhall;
- [7] Elsie Mary Smith (21), daughter, born Willenhall:

Herbert Ordridge, beer retailer, 73, Walsall Road. [1912]

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/6/1912 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, at Eleven o’clock am, on Thursday, the 18th Day of July, 1912. And Notice Is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard; that is to say, the Persons interested in any Licensed Premises in question, and, unless it appears to the Compensation Authority unnecessary, any other persons appearing to them to be interested in the question of the renewal of the license of those premises (including the Justices of the Licensing District). List of Licensed Premises.....

SPREAD EAGLE, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869, Licensee, *Herbert Alfred Ordidge*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/8/1912 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 18th day of July, 1912, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below, all Persons Claiming to be Interested in the said Premises for the purpose of the Payment of Compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 26th day of August, 1912, for the purpose of enabling the Compensation Authority to ascertain in manner provided by the Licensing Rules, 1910, the Persons entitled to Compensation under the said Act, in respect of the said Premises.....

SPREAD EAGLE, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869, Licensee, *Herbert Alfred Ordidge*. Registered Owner, Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/1/1913

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.....

The County Licensing Committee presented the following report.....

The committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon are satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.

In the following twenty-five cases the committee fixed the compensation.....

SPREAD EAGLE, Willenhall, beerhouse ante 1869, £850.....

The money has been apportioned amongst the interested parties and will be paid out on the 21st of December.”

SPRING COTTAGE

Sandbeds, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Forrester [1850] – [1862]

NOTES

John Forrester = John Forester

1861 Census

Sandbeds

[1] *John Forrester* (54), innkeeper, born Market Drayton, Shropshire;

[2] Leah Forrester (60), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Fanny Forrester (20), daughter, house servant, born Willenhall;

[4] Mary Forrester (12), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] George Forrester (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] Rebecca Forrester (2), granddaughter, born Willenhall:

John Forrester – see also NOAHS ARK.

STAR

88, Lower Lichfield Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1928]

Ansells Ltd. [1946]

LICENSEES

John Madden [] – **1881**;

Thomas Haley (**1881** – []

John William Jackson [1891] – [1892]

George Dugmore [1896]

Thomas Ridge [1901] – [1908]

Mrs. Emma Wilkes [1911] – [1912]

Colin Jobber [1921]

William H Martin [1932]

James Harold Hampton [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

STARR INN [1904]

STAR HOTEL [1932], [1940]

1881 Census

88, Lower Lichfield Street – STAR HOTEL

- [1] Thomas Haley (32), assistant to wine and spirit dealer, born Birmingham;
- [2] Patrick O'Kane (22), assistant to wine and spirit dealer, born Londonderry, Ireland;
- [3] Henry Hawley (22), assistant to wine and spirit dealer, born Coventry;
- [4] John Maby (41), assistant to wine and spirit dealer, born Bristol;
- [5] Frances Stokes (23), assistant to wine and spirit dealer, born Walsall:

1891 Census

88, Lower Lichfield Street – STAR HOTEL

- [1] *John W. Jackson* (39), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Harriet Jackson (39), wife, born Shifnal, Shropshire;
- [3] Emily B. Jackson (15), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Harriet M. Parton (14), niece, born Ryton, Shropshire:

1901 Census

88, Lower Lichfield Street

- [1] *Thomas Ridge* (38), publican, born Manchester;
- [2] Nellie Ridge (34), wife, born Manchester;
- [3] Thomas Ridge (10), son, born Manchester;
- [4] Emma Baker (20), servant, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

88, Lower Lichfield Street

- [1] *Emma Wilkes* (52), married, hotel manageress, born Hill Top, Wednesbury;
- [2] Elsie Wilkes (20), daughter, born Walsall:

South Staffordshire Times 7/5/1921

“At Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, before Messrs. S. Lister, H. H. Clinton, and C. H. Pinson, *Colin Jobber*, licensee of the STAR HOTEL, Lower Lichfield Street, was summoned for supplying drink to customers during prohibited hours on April 26th, for permitting consumption of drink during such hours, and for permitting drunkenness to take place on licensed premises; *Winifred Jobber*, his wife, was charged with being drunk on the premises; *George Ernest Woolley*, Albion Road, was charged with being drunk on the premises, and also consuming intoxicants during prohibited hours; his wife, *Emily Woolley*, was charged with consuming intoxicants at the same time; *Alfred Ordidge*, Wood Street, was charged with being on the premises, and with illegal consumption, and his wife, *Elsie Ordidge*, was charged with being on the premises during prohibited hours. Mr. Ernest J. Hall appeared for the defendants, all of whom pleaded guilty.

Outlining the circumstances on behalf of the police, Superintendent Higgs said that this was undoubtedly a very drunken orgy, and he thought the Bench should look upon it as a very serious offence. He believed the license holder was being removed from his position.

Sergeant Evans stated that, in company with two constables, he, on the 26th April, was in Lower Lichfield Street, and standing outside the STAR HOTEL he heard corks being drawn from bottles, and also loud talking taking place at the rear of the house. At 4am he visited the house, and in the back room on the ground floor he found the licensee, his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Ordidge, and Mr. and Mrs. Woolley. All except the licensee were sitting down. Most of them had glasses containing beer or stout in front of them, and there were several empty bottles and glasses on the table. Mrs. *Jobber*, Mr. Woolley and Mr. Ordidge were drunk, but Mrs. Woolley and Mrs. Ordidge were apparently sober. Witness asked the licensee how he accounted for having people on his premises during prohibited hours, but he gave no explanation. He drank up his beer, and Mr. Ordidge drank his. Witness told licensee he was drunk, and also mentioned the others who were drunk. Mrs. Ordidge and Mrs. Woolley then took their husbands away from the house. Witness went outside, and Mr. and Mrs. *Jobber* followed him. When in the street, Mr. *Jobber* said he would like to speak to witness privately. Witness said he could say what he had to say in front of the two constables. Mr. *Jobber* said, ‘Well, good morning,’ and the added offensive expressions regarding witness and the constables.

Mr. Hall said the defendants had pleaded guilty on his advice, and they threw themselves entirely on the mercy of the Court. He would admit it was a very serious offence, and one for which defendants tendered their sincere regret. Mr. *Jobber* suffered severely during the war, and lost the use of one arm. His army record was an exemplary one. What he suffered in the army, however, was nothing like what he would have to suffer as a result of the present proceedings, for it would practically ruin his life. They had met together to settle a little private business, and forgot their legal obligations. He (Mr. Hall) suggested nominal fines would be sufficient in this case.

Having considered their decision privately, the Chairman said the charge against Mr. *Jobber* was a very serious one. He had rendered himself liable to maximum penalties of £210. It was a disgraceful thing that he should allow people to be in his house at that time in the morning, and if it had not been for his excellent military service and the position he was in they would not have hesitated to fine him the maximum amount. He would be fined £30 for supplying intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours, and £10 for permitting drunkenness. The Bench were surprised to see Mr. Woolley in such a position, as he had been looked upon as a very respectable man. He would be fined £25 for consuming intoxicants on the premises during prohibited hours, and Mrs. Woolley would have to pay £5. Mr. Ordidge ought to have known better that to be on the premises. He would be fined £5 and his wife 20s for being on the premises during prohibited hours. Mr. Ordidge, Mr. Woolley, and Mrs. *Jobber* would be fined further sums of 10s each for being drunk on the premises.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 21/4/1928

“At the County Licensing Confirmation Committee at Stafford on Thursday, application by John Moran for the removal of the full license of the ALBION INN, Union Street, Willenhall, to the SHAKESPEARE INN, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall (a beerhouse), was supported by Mr. R. Harris (representing Messrs. Atkinson, the owners), and opposed by Mr. Arthur Ward (for Messrs. Myatt, owners of the STAR, Lower Lichfield Street).

The latter cross-examined witnesses to show that within 250 yards of the SHAKESPEARE there was 19 licensed houses, viz 8 full licenses; whilst in the last eight years, 8 houses had been closed in the same radius on the grounds of redundancy. The application for confirmation was refused.”

1939 Register

88, Lower Lichfield Street – Public House (2 of 3)

[1] *James Harold Hampton*, date of birth 23/12/1904, brass turner and licensee, married;

[2] *Elizabeth N. Hampton*, dob 26/12/1906, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Bilston and Willenhall Times 30/11/1946

“Willenhall (Ansells) Crib League, which is composed of 12 clubs from seven houses, held its first annual social at the STAR HOTEL, Lower Lichfield Street, on Thursday night.....”

Closed

STAR

New Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1908]

STORES

3, Cross Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Timmins [1881]

Rebecca Timmins (1887 – []

John Appleby [1891]

NOTES

1881 Census

3, Cross Street

[1] *John Timmins* (53), widower, publican, born Gnosall;

[2] *John Williams* (24), visitor, shunter on GWR, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Ella Williams* (24), wife, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1891

“At the County Petty Sessions, yesterday, Daniel Baker, at present holder of the license of the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall,

applied for the transfer of the license of the STORES, Cross Street, Willenhall, from *John Appleby*, the present tenant, to himself. Chief-superintendent Longden questioned the applicant with regard to betting transactions, and opposed the application on the ground that Baker was mixed up with racing men and bookmakers. The transfer was refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/5/1891

“Daniel Baker, of the MARKET TAVERN, Willenhall, applied for the licence of the STORES INN, Cross Street, Willenhall, to be transferred from *John Appleby* to himself. Chief Supt. Longden opposed the application on the ground that the applicant was associated with racing men and bookmakers. The applicant said he had given up betting. The application was refused.”

1891 Census

3, Cross Street

- [1] *John Appleby* (57), locksmith and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Caroline Appleby (60), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Mary A. Butler (30), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Philemon Butler (3 months), grandson, born Enfield, Middlesex:

STORES

New Hall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mrs. E. Jordan [1881]

NOTES

Evening Express 9/2/1881 - Advert

“Wanted, a General Servant, age about 18.
Mrs. *Jordan*, the STORES, New Hall Street, Willenhall.”

Evening Express 10/10/1881 - Advert

“Second-Hand Set of Harness, or Exchange for Poultry; also small Pony Trap, would Exchange for Pigs or Sow.
Apply *E. Jordan*, THE STORES, Willenhall.”

STORES

29, (28+29), Church Street, (Walsall Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Miss A. P. Sanders [1913]

LICENSEES

Samuel Taylor [1901] – [1913]

NOTES

Walsall Street [1908]
Church Street [1911]

1901 Census

28+29, Church Street

- [1] *Samuel Taylor* (42), key stamper and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Susan Taylor (34), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] William Taylor (14), son, cooper, born Willenhall;
- [4] Annie Taylor (11), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Jane Johnson (18), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

29, Church Street

- [1] *Samuel Taylor* (52), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Susan Taylor (45), wife, married 25 years, assisting in the business, born Tipton;
- [3] William Taylor (24), son, case maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] Annie Taylor (21), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] George Bryan (25), boarder, caster, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/2/1913

“Objections were raised to the renewal of several licences, and the magistrates ordered the following licences to be scheduled for compensation STORES INN, Church Street, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1913 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. Notice of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, at 10-45 o'clock am on Thursday, the 24th day of July, 1913. And Notice Is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard..... STORES, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Samuel Taylor*.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/7/1913

“The Staffordshire Licensing Committee, at their meeting at Stafford yesterday, had thirty-eight cases to consider, the question being whether the licenses should be withdrawn and the houses extinguished under the compensation clauses of the Licensing Act.....

The licenses of the STORES, the NEW INN, and the CROSS INN, Willenhall, were referred. The only objection was against the non-renewal of the license of the CROSS INN, and the committee decided to renew the license, the others being refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/8/1913 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 24th day of July, 1913, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below, all Persons Claiming to be Interested in the said Premises for the purpose of the Payment of Compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 7th day of September, 1913, for the purpose of enabling the Compensation Authority to ascertain in manner provided by the Licensing Rules, 1910, the Persons entitled to Compensation under the said Act, in respect of the said Premises..... STORES, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Samuel Taylor*. Registered Owner, Miss A. P. Sanders.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1914

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee.....

At the principal meeting of the compensation authority the committee refused to renew 31 licenses. At the supplemental meeting the committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon were satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the Compensation Fund. In the following 27 cases the committee fixed the compensation.....

STORES, Willenhall, £850.”

Check Cross Street.

SUMMER HOUSE

9, Clemson Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Benjamin Punfield [1864] – [1891]
Joseph Jenkins [1901] – 1924;
Joseph Jenkins [1932]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as 'Jenkins'.

Benjamin Punfield, beer retailer, Clemson Street. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1872]

1871 Census

Clemson Street – SUMMER HOUSE

- [1] *Benjamin Punfield* (41), beer seller, born Willenhall;
- [2] Emma Punfield (41), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Arthur Punfield (14), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

1881 Census

9, Clemson Street

- [1] *Benjamin Punfield* (51), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Emma Punfield (50), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Arthur Punfield (24), son, carpenter, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

9, Clemson Street – SUMMER HOUSE INN

- [1] *Benjamin Punfield* (62), widower, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Emma Barrett (24), housekeeper, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

9, Clemson Street

- [1] *Joseph Jenkins* (48), beerhouse keeper, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] Martha Jenkins (48), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Alice Garner (25), daughter, married, housemaid, born Willenhall;
- [4] Henry Jenkins (22), son, office clerk, born Willenhall;
- [5] Roland Jenkins (18), son, office clerk, born Willenhall;
- [6] Lily Jenkins (15), daughter, born Willenhall:

Joseph Jenkins, beer retailer, 9, Clemson Street. [1904], [1908], [1912]

1911 Census

9, Clemson Street

- [1] *Joseph Jenkins* (58), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Martha Jenkins (58), wife, married 38 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] Alice Garner (35), daughter, married, domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [4] Horace Jenkins (14), grandson, born Willenhall;
- [5] Martha Jenkins (8), granddaughter, born Willenhall:

Bilston & Willenhall Times 6/12/1924

“The death has taken place, from pneumonia, of Mr. *Joseph Jenkins*, who for over 25 years was the licensee of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Clemson Street. He leaves three sons and one daughter.”

Joseph Jenkins, beer retailer, 9, Clemson Street. [1932]

SWAN

Church Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Heap [1828] – [1830]

NOTES

Check Cross Street.

SWAN

184, Coltham Road, (Ezekiel Lane), (Swan Lane), (184, Swan Road), (Kings Cottages), (Short Heath Lane), (Pools Lane), (74, Short Heath), Lane Head, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Kay [1860] – **1861**)
Thomas Fereday [1861] – **[1863]**;
John Rollason (**1863 – 1870**);
George Parkes (**1870** – [1871])
Mrs. Elizabeth Kay [1868] – [1874]
George Parker [1872] – [1873]
Joseph Jordan [] **1876**);
Charles Wall (**1876** – [])
Edward Stallard (**1883** – [1892])
Mrs. Ann Stallard [1896] – [1901]
Simon Dodge [1904]
Mrs. Louisa Southall [1908]
Thomas Wilkinson [1909] – [1921]
Mrs. Mary Ann Day [1932] – [1940]
Burns [1944]
Les Owen [1985]
Steve Silk [1997]
Rachel Stanton [2022]

NOTES

Lane Head [1860]
Kings Cottages [1861]
Ezekiel Lane
74, Short Heath [1871]
Pools Lane [1891]
Swan Lane [1901]
184, Swan Road [1911]
184, Coltham Road

It was originally called the NANNY GOAT INN.

SWAN [1860]

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/1/1860

“Willenhall Local Board Of Health. At the usual fortnightly meeting of the members of this body, held on Monday evening. . . . Mr. *Kay*, the landlord of the SWAN public-house, at Short Heath, attended to present to the Board a bill of 15s 6d, expenses incurred by him in the removal of night soil from his own premises, in June last. Mr. *Kay* said that Lewis, the inspector of nuisances, had instructed him to have the work done, and to send his account to the Board. The Chairman and other members of the Board were of opinion that their inspector had no power to give such instructions, and that, if they recognised the claim, they would be establishing a bad precedent. They, therefore, determined to reject the application. Mr. *Kay*, being informed of this, said he should take further steps in the matter.”

1861 Census

Kings Cottages – SWAN INN – Public House

[1] *Thomas Kay* (50), innkeeper, born Stoke, Shropshire;

[2] *Betsy Kay* (22), daughter, born Wednesbury;

[3] *Ellen Kay* (15), daughter, born West Bromwich:

Birmingham Daily Post 4/6/1861 - Advert

“Sale At The SWAN INN, Lane Head, Willenhall.

To Be Sold By Auction, by H. W. Greaser, on Thursday Next, June 6th, a quantity of well-seasoned Ale Casks, Tub Coolers, Two Pockets of fine Farnham and Worcester Hops, growth of 1859; part of the Household Furniture, two Spring Traps, Set of Trap Harness, a very useful Horse, five years old, 15½ hands high, fast goer, warranted sound, and steady in harness; Wood Plough, and numerous Effects belonging to Mr. *Thomas Kay*, who is giving up the house.

Sale to commence at twelve o’clock in the morning, with the usual conditions.”

Thomas Fereday = Thomas Feredy

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/7/1861

“*Thomas Feredy*, SWAN INN, Lane Head, was summoned before the magistrates on Monday last, for keeping his house open at illegal hours. The information was laid by Inspector Thompson, and the case proved by police-constable Satchwell. Stachwell stated that he found nineteen people in the defendant’s house at twenty minutes past four o’clock on the morning of Sunday, the 21st instant. The Magistrates inflicted a penalty of 10s and costs.

An information against the same defendant for keeping a disorderly house on the 22nd instant was dismissed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

“The license of the SWAN, Lane Head, Willenhall, was suspended till the 9th of September (the adjourned licensing meeting having been fixed for that day), in consequence of the police having reported that the landlord had repeatedly infringed the tenour of his license.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/9/1861

“On Monday last, H. Hill and W. Tarratt, Esqs., at the County Petty Sessions in Bilston Street, granted licenses to *Thomas Fereday*, SWAN INN, Short Heath; the licenses had been suspended at the licensing day because of improper conduct on the part of their holders.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1862

“County licensing meeting held on Thursday last There were no licenses suspended, but the following publicans were reprimanded for misconduct in the management of their houses during the last twelve months *Thomas Fereday*, the SWAN INN, Willenhall As promises of amendment were made for the future, the licenses were again renewed.”

John Rollason = John Rolason = John Rollaston

Elizabeth Kay = Elizabeth Key

1871 Census

74, Short Heath

[1] *Elizabeth Kay* (69), wife, publican, born Lane Head;

[2] *Ellen Hicken* (32), general servant, born Lane Head:

Evening Express 7/6/1881

“On Saturday afternoon the Deputy Coroner (H. Brevitt, Esq) held an inquest at the SWAN INN, Short Heath, touching the death of Alfred Squire, ten years of age, lately residing with his parents at Quinton’s buildings, Short Heath.

Silas Squire, father of the deceased, said that on Thursday he sent the lad to the Pelsall Coal and Iron Company’s Canal Wharf

with a message. He was then to have returned to school. In going from home he would have to go along the main road for some 300 yards and then turn to the left on the tramway which leads to the wharf. Witness did not see him alive again.

Police-constable Dodge, stationed at Short Heath, identified the body as that of Alfred Squire, and said there were no marks of violence, except a slight bruise on the right jaw, which might have been caused by the rake which was used in getting the body out of the water.

Charles Wall, junior, said about eleven o'clock on Thursday night he saw someone with a light at the wharf, and was told that Alfred Squire was lost. Witness's father, who was there, said he had noticed that someone had removed a chain that was by the side of the wharf. Thinking deceased must have fallen into the canal witness procured a coal rake, and in a short time found his dead body. Both hands were clenched and in a raised position, but there was nothing in them.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased was Found Drowned in the canal, but how he got into the water there was no evidence to show."

Edward Stallard = Edward Stattard

1891 Census

Pools Lane

[1] *Edward Stattard* (57), licensed victualler, born Gloucestershire;

[2] *Ann Stattard* (48), wife, born Leicestershire;

[3] Edward Stattard (18), son, coal miner, born Short Heath;

[4] Elizabeth Stattard (13), daughter, scholar, born Short Heath:

Walsall Observer 21/7/1900

"Mr. Allen Stokes (county coroner) conducted an inquiry on Tuesday at the SWAN INN, Short Heath, relative to the drowning of Frank Davies (35), locksmith, late of School Street, Short Heath.

According to the evidence the deceased was seen by two boys to undress by the canal side at Bentley, on Monday. He put one foot in the water and pulled it out again. He was then observed to fall full length into the water.

Deceased, it transpired had been subject to fits. A verdict of Drowned whilst in a fit was returned."

1901 Census

Swan Lane – SWAN INN

[1] *Ann Stallard* (58), widow, licensed victualler, born Ibstock, Leicestershire;

[2] William Rowell (81), father, widower, retired farmer, born Congerstone, Leicestershire;

[3] William Rowell (22), son, coal loader, below ground, born Austrey, Warwickshire;

[4] Eliza Harris (20), visitor, born Short Heath;

[5] Annie Walters (40), general servant, born Much Wenlock, Shropshire:

Walsall Advertiser 18/9/1909

"David Harris (21), alias 'Kelly', of Sandbank, Bloxwich, was summoned at Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, for having been drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the SWAN INN, Short Heath, on the 4th inst., and also for assaulting the landlord, *Thomas Wilkinson*.

Prosecutor stated that Harris was creating a disturbance in the house on the date named, and when requested to leave he refused to do so. Witness thereupon took hold of him to put him out, but defendant struck him on the mouth and knocked him down.

Defendant alleged there was 'a riot in the house' on the evening named, and questioned *Wilkinson* as to whether one man did not bite another man's ear through. He also alleged that the landlord had been to a football match at Hurst Hill, and was in beer himself when he returned. The licensee said he knew nothing of the biting, and speaking of his own condition he emphatically denied that he was under the influence of drink. The wife of the licensee gave evidence, and said there had been a row in the house prior to her husband's return, but the defendant was the cause of it.

The defendant exhibited a wound on his leg which he said *Wilkinson* caused by kicking him, and he called a witness who said the blow he gave the landlord was accidental.

The magistrates imposed fines of 2s 6d and 12s 6d costs in each case, total £1 10s."

1911 Census

184, Swan Road

[1] *Thomas Wilkinson* (43), publican, born Bentley;

[2] Harriet Wilkinson (42), wife, publican, assisting, born Short Heath;

[3] Horace Wilkinson (12), son, school, born Short Heath;

[4] Eliza Kingstone (32), wife's sister, unmarried, bridle stitcher, born Short Heath:

1939 Register

Coltham Road – SWAN INN

[1] *Mary A. Day*, date of birth 18/1/1876, publican, widowed;

[2] *Walter Day*, dob 9/4/1924, machine shop boy, locksmith, single:

Walsall Observer 4/11/1944 - Acknowledgements

“Mr. and Mrs. Day, of 5, Thomas Street, Walsall, wish to thank all Relatives and Friends for floral tributes with special thanks to ... Mr. and Mrs. *Burns*, SWAN INN, Short Heath.”

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

An angling club was formed here in 1966.

Sports Argus 22/5/1976

“In front of a capacity crowd at the T. I. Club, Oldbury, the SWAN from Willenhall became holders of the M&B Trophy and also collected a cheque for £400. The final saw the SWAN make sure of victory in the sixth game against the much fancied Birmingham team Lord Byron.....”

[Darts]

Express & Star 21/3/2022

“Wetherspoons has put prices up by up to 20p a pint with other licensees and breweries warning of further rises in the coming months. Hospitality businesses including pubs, bars and restaurants face increased energy bills and are paying more for delivery due to petrol and diesel costs. Prices in West Midland-based Marston’s restaurants and pubs have risen in recent days by between 20p and 45p on average in the last week.....”

In Willenhall landlady *Rachel Stanton*, of the SWAN, in Coltham Road, Short Heath, claims her prices were currently the cheapest in the area. Our prices went up two weeks ago with 20p gone on a pint of Guinness and Coors. There’s also 10p on lagers, ciders and shorts. We have to compensate somehow for the rising costs,’ she added.

The price of malting barley, the most important ingredient for lager, has more than doubled. Beer prices are up by as much as 45p in the region as the cost of living crisis escalates.”

[2022]

SWAN

32, (33), Cross Street, Market Place, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Samuel Bruerton [1833] – [1835]
Benjamin Smith [1841] – [1845]
John Read [1850] – [1851]
John Wooldridge [1858] – [1860]
James Wooldridge [1861] – [1862]
Joseph Lawrence [1864] – [1896]
William Daniels [1901]
Richard Goodwin [1908]
Frank Arthur [1911] – [1912]
Frederick Redfern [1916]
Mrs. L Wilson [1932] – [1940]

NOTES

Cross Street [1860]
33, Cross Street [1881], [1901]
32, Cross Street [1891]

SWAN HOTEL [1932]

Samuel Bruerton was also a file maker. [1833]

J. Wooldridge issued tokens from here.

1841 Census

Cross Street

- [1] *Benjamin Smith* (50), lock maker and publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Smith* (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Samuel Smith* (25), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Thomas Smith* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Eliza Smith* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Charles Smith* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [7] *John Smith* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [8] *Emma Smith* (9), born Staffordshire;
- [9] *Thomas Babb* (20), ms, born Staffordshire;
- [10] *Henry Beckett* (15), ms, born Staffordshire;
- [11] *George How* (15), ms;
- [12] *James Butler* (14), apprentice, born Staffordshire:

Benjamin Smith was also a brass padlock manufacturer. [1845]

John Read was also a brass padlock manufacturer. [1851]

1851 Census

Cross Street

- [1] *John Read* (40), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Read* (31), wife, born Hoppus, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Emma Read* (17), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Sarah Read* (16), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Mary Read* (14), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Ann Read* (12), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *John Read* (8), son, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Joseph Read* (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Lewesia Read* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [10] *Samuel Read* (7 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [11] *John George* (19), apprentice, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [12] *Daniel Hughes* (19), apprentice, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [13] *Sarah Nicholls* (64), visitor, widow, born Tamworth:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/1/1858

“*James Wooldridge*, the landlord of the SWAN INN, Market Place, Willenhall, was charged with entertaining a police officer named *Smith*, whilst he ought to have been on duty. It appears that a disturbance had taken place in the early part of Thursday evening, amongst some customers frequenting that house, information of which had been given to the police and at the request of Inspector Thompson the officer on duty at 10 o’clock was ordered to call in at the SWAN INN, providing the company was disorderly. The officer called about eleven o’clock, and partook of a pint of ale, and a comfortable smoke of tobacco; hence the present charge against the landlord of the house. The Bench said it was against the law to entertain a police officer, whilst on duty, and inflicted a penalty of 10s and costs.”

John Wooldridge was also a charter master. [1860]

1861 Census

Cross Street

- [1] *James Wooldridge* (40), miner and publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Sarah Wooldridge* (36), wife, born Mytton, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Thomas Wooldridge* (14), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Paulour Wooldridge* (12), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Charles Wooldridge* (10), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Mary Wooldridge* (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [7] *Elizabeth Wooldridge* (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [8] *James Henry Wooldridge* (1), son, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Elizabeth Cotterill* (15), servant, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/2/1862

“On Monday last, at the Police Court, *James Woolridge*, late of the SWAN INN, Willenhall, was fined 10s and costs for refusing to admit Police-constable Allcock into his house last Tuesday morning. Mr. J. E. Underhill appeared in defence.”

Joseph Lawrence = Joseph Lawrance

Joseph Lawrence was also a brass padlock manufacturer.

1871 Census

Cross Street

- [1] *Joseph Lawrance* (46), wine merchant, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Lawrance* (32), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Thomas Lawrance* (9), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Lawrance* (7), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Etty F. Lawrance* (6 months), born Willenhall;
- [6] *Sarah A. Sheldon* (22), bar maid, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Sarah A. Gowler* (14), general servant, born Darlaston:

1881 Census

33, Cross Street

- [1] *Joseph Lawrence* (56), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Lawrence* (43), wife, born Bradley;
- [3] *Thomas Lawrence* (19), son, assistant (brewer), born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Lawrence* (17), son, assistant (brewer), born Willenhall;
- [5] *Florence Lawrence* (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Polly Lawrence* (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Hayden Lawrence* (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Norah Lawrence* (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Alice Lawrence* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [10] *Jane Wolverson* (49), visitor, born Wolverhampton;
- [11] *Mary Coyne* (17), nurse, born Willenhall;
- [12] *Sarah Stanfield* (18), domestic servant, born Pleck, Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/12/1882

“On Tuesday, also, another enquiry was held at the SWAN INN, Cross Street, Willenhall, touching the death of Mrs. Ann Wood (52), widow. Evidence was given showing that deceased had died in an epileptic fit on Saturday morning, and a verdict was returned of Death from Natural Causes.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/11/1890

“Mr. Joseph B. Lees had received instructions from the Trustee of the late Mr. William Blakemore, to Offer the following Valuable Properties for Sale by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Lawrence*, SWAN HOTEL, Market Place, Willenhall, on Tuesday, December 2, 1890, at Six for Seven o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions of sale which will incorporate the common form conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Society, in the following or such other lots as may be decided upon at the time of sale. The Auctioneer wishes to call special attention to this sale, as it is the most important one that has been held in town for a considerable number of years, and it embraces a class of property that very seldom finds its way into the public market. For further particulars and to inspect plans, apply to the Auctioneer, 2, New Road, Willenhall; or to Mr. John Clark, Solicitor, Willenhall.”

1891 Census

32, Cross Street

- [1] *Joseph Lawrence* (66), brewer, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Lawrence* (58), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Florence Lawrence* (19), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Pollie Lawrence* (17), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Joseph W. Lawrence* (14), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Sarah S. Lawrence* (13), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Mary Gelby* (26), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

33, Cross Street

- [1] *William Daniels* (51), licensed victualler’s manager, born Worcester;
- [2] *Nellie Daniels* (30), wife, born Ruardean, Monmouthshire;
- [3] *Edith Lock* (22), barmaid, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Jenny Flinn* (19), visitor, general servant, born Bilston;
- [5] *Edith Probyn* (6), visitor, born Manchester:

1911 Census

Cross Street - SWAN HOTEL

- [1] *Frank Arthur* (32), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Annie Barwell Arthur* (29), wife, married 7 years, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Francis Henry Arthur* (6), son, born Walsall;

- [4] Eric Charles Arthur (4), son, born Lane Green;
[5] Leslie Parkes Arthur (10), son, born Lane Green;
[6] Agnes Lane (15), servant, nursemaid, born Heath Town;
[7] Millicent Jane Morgan (20), domestic servant, born Royston, Yorkshire:

Closed

SWAN

Walsall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Thomas [1818]

SWAN +

WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Butler [1822]

TALBOT

57, (56+57), Alma Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Turton [] – 1874);
Joseph Turton (1874 – []
William Turton [1891] – [1904]
Mrs. Jane Turton [1908] – [1912]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1891 Census

56+57, Alma Street

- [1] *William Turton* (30), publican and lock maker, born Willenhall;
[2] *Jane Turton* (21), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] *Hannah Turton* (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
[4] *John Turton* (21), brother, born Willenhall;
[5] *William Smith* (21), boarder, locksmith, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

57, Alma Street

- [1] *William Turton* (40), cabinet lock manufacturer, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Jane Turton* (31), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Hannah Turton* (14), daughter, dressmaker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Dorothy M. Turton* (6), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Alice V. Turton* (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *William Turton* (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *John Turton* (31), brother, cabinet lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Clara Phillips* (21), general servant, born Willenhall:

William Turton, beer retailer and lock maker, 57, Alma Street. [1904]

1911 Census

56+57, Alma Street

- [1] *Jane Turton* (42), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Hannah Turton* (24), daughter, dressmaker, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Dorothy May Turton* (16), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Alice Victoria Turton* (14), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *William Turton* (12), son, school, born Willenhall;
- [6] *John Simeon Turton* (41), brother in law, cabinet locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Clara Phillips* (30), general servant, born Willenhall:

Mrs. *Jane Turton*, beer retailer, 57, Alma Street. [1912]

TALBOT

10, Market Place, (Cross Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1933]

F. W. Paddey Ltd, Wolverhampton [1946]

LICENSEES

James Whitehouse [1818]

John Phillips [1822] – [1830]

Joseph Phillips [1832]

Henry Hill [1841] – [1842]

Henry Fairbank [1855] – [1879]

John Fairbank [1896] – [1921]

John Moran [1925]

George Wolverson [1932]

Harry Elwen Cox [1940]

Francis Edward Dagley [1946] licensee

Samuel Robert John Lee [1946] manager

NOTES

Cross Street [1828], [1830]

10, Market Place [1932]

SPIRIT VAULTS [1855], [1862]

It had a six-day beerhouse license.

James Whitehouse was also a maltster. [1818]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/9/1832 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by Joseph Turner, on Thursday next, September 27, 1832, the Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, 30 iron-bound Ale Barrels, 7 pockets of excellent Hops, and other Effects, on the Premises of Mr. *Joseph Phillips*, TALBOT INN, Willenhall.

Sale to Commence at 10 o'clock in the morning.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/3/1850 - Marriages

“On the 28th ult., at the Wesleyan chapel, Willenhall, Mr. *Henry Fairbank*, wine and spirit merchant, to Fanny Maria, second daughter of Mr. Richard Tildesley, brass-founder, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/3/1855

“William Leek was fined 5s and costs, for breaking the windows in Mr. *Fairbank's* SPIRIT VAULTS, at Willenhall.”

Walsall Free Press 12/2/1859

“On Monday last, at the Willenhall Petty Sessions, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher, and R. D. Gough, Esq., Charlotte Tonks was charged with having stolen the sum of 8s 8d from the till of *Henry Fairbank's* Public-house, Market Place, on the preceding Tuesday. From the evidence it appeared that for nearly two years she had been employed in Mr. *Fairbank's* family as a domestic servant, and he having for some time suspected her, marked some money and placed it in the till. On Tuesday he found in her pocket 8s 8d of the money he had that morning marked. He sent for a police-officer, who on his arrival searched her boxes, in which, besides a great quantity of wearing apparel (she had stated to one of her acquaintances that she had seventeen dresses of her own) was found £6 and some odd silver, which, with the marked money, amounted to £7 14s 11d. The prisoner confessed that she had taken £3 of this money from her master. She was sentenced to be imprisoned for a period of three months with hard labour.”

1861 Census

Market Place – Liquor Vaults – TALBOT

- [1] *Henry Fairbank* (33), wine merchant, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Fanny M. Fairbank (32), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Harriet C. Fairbank (10), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] John Fairbank (8), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Fanny M. Fairbank (6), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Catherine H. Fairbank (4), daughter scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Emma Bricknell (23), domestic servant, born Tipton;
- [8] Eliza Groves (15), nurse, born Willenhall:

Henry Fairbank, beer retailer, Market Place. [1870]

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/4/1870

“Thomas Williams, jun., chartermaster, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the liquor shop of Mr. *Henry Fairbanks*, in the Market Place, with assaulting the complainant, and threatening his son, and with breaking a jug. Mr. *Fairbanks* alleged that on 25th of February the defendant entered his shop drunk, refused to leave, and broke a jug by throwing it on the floor. Mr. *Fairbanks* tried to remove him, and during the tussle was kicked in the knee by Williams, who fell down and fractured his leg. The defendant was fined 5s and costs for refusing to quit, breaking the jug, and threatening Mr. *Fairbanks*, jun, and £1 and costs for assaulting Mr. *Fairbanks*, sen, and in default two months' imprisonment.”

1871 Census

Market Place

- [1] *Henry Fairbank* (43), wine merchant, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Fanny M. Fairbank (42), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] George R. Fairbank (7), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Hannah Lonsdale (52), general servant, born Tipton:

Henry Fairbank, spirit vaults, Market Place. [1868], [1872]

[Henry Fairbank and family were at 32, Walsall Street by 1881.]

South Staffordshire Times 24/12/1921

“Willenhall Police Court Mr. R. Tildesley made an application on behalf of Mr. *Fairbank*, the proprietor of a wine and spirit vaults in Market Square, Willenhall, for an extension of one hour beyond 10pm, on three different nights in Christmas week, including Christmas Eve. He said that in pre-war times such extensions were invariably granted to all the licensees of the town who chose to apply for it.

On going into the witness-box, Mr. *Fairbank* said he would be quite content with an extra hour on Christmas Eve. It was an individual application, but he presumed that if it were granted to him it would be granted to others who cared to apply for it.

Superintendent Higgs said having regard to the general conditions and the trade depression in the town he did not think an extra

hour would be needed. On that ground he opposed the application. After giving private consideration to the application, the Chairman said the Bench had agreed to grant Mr. *Fairbank* an extension of one hour on Christmas Eve, and said that other licensees could have a similar privilege by applying to the magistrates Clerk for it.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 3/10/1925

“Willenhall Police Court.....

‘Evidence of this kind of behaviour comes before this Court far too frequently,’ remarked the Chairman to John Mansfield, of Noose Lane, Wednesfield, who was fined £2 and costs for using obscene and abusive language in Willenhall on September 18th. PC Lewis deposed to seeing the defendant outside the Central cafe. He was using obscene and abusive language, and when questioned said that someone had accused him of telling a lie.

John Moran, licensee of the TALBOT HOTEL, Market Place, said the defendant was continually annoying customers in his house. He had on several previous occasions warned defendant of his conduct, but on the date in question he came into the inn and made himself a general nuisance. He was under the influence of drink, and annoyed customers, who left the house in consequence of his abusive language and attitude towards them.

Defendant denied the allegations made by both witnesses that he used bad language, and when a sample of his ‘eloquence’ was handed to him he said he had never used the words in his life. He had girls in his employ and he was against the use of bad language in their hearing. He had a good character, and although he had been summoned on a previous occasion for being drunk, no mention had been made of his having used any indecent language.

Defendant was fined as stated.”

The full license from the TURKS HEAD was transferred here on 8th April 1933.

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/4/1933

“Six applications for confirmation of provisional licences and removal orders were considered at a meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Confirmation Committee held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Saturday.....

Confirmation of the removal of the full licence of the TURKS HEAD, Willenhall, to premises known as the TALBOT INN, Willenhall, which at present has a six days’ full licence, was sought by Mr. W. C. Boyd Forsyth (Messrs. Fowler, Langley, and Wright), who appeared for Nellie Pleydell.

Mr. Forsyth explained that the licence of the TURKS HEAD would be surrendered. Messrs. W. Butler & Co., of Wolverhampton, had owned the TALBOT INN for less than a year, and it appeared that the restriction of a six days’ licence was imposed more than 30 years ago. They thought it was unfair that they should still be saddled with that restriction, and accordingly had applied for a seven days’ licence. There was no opposition to the application.

The removal order was confirmed.”

Bilston and Willenhall Times 16/2/1946

“Allegations concerning the supply and consumption of intoxicating liquor during non-permitted hours were made at Willenhall on Monday, when summonses for supplying were heard against *Francis Edward Dagley*, licensee of the TALBOT INN, Market Place, Willenhall, and *Samuel Robert John Lee*, the manager, while Walter Woolley, 108, Broad Lane, Wednesfield, and Joseph Phillips and his wife Elsie Phillips, 75, Pinson Road, Willenhall, were summoned for consuming. *Lee* was further summoned for aiding and abetting in the consumption.

Mr. E. E. Brown, who prosecuted, said that *Dagley* was the licensee of the public house, which was owned by F. W. Paddey Ltd, of Wolverhampton, and *Lee* was the manager. Under the Licensing Act, however, the licensee was responsible for the acts of his servant, and if they were friends he was responsible for seeing that they were entertained in a bona fide manner. A manager could not entertain his friends to drinks in his house after hours without breaking the law unless the people were also friends of the licensee.

At 11.50pm on December 29th. said Mr. Brown, PC Parton had his suspicions aroused, and he went up the passage at the side of the house. Finding the gate unlocked, he looked through the window into the bar. He there saw Phillips and Woolley standing in the bar, with Mrs. Woolley, and Mrs. Lee sitting by the fire. *Lee* himself was standing behind the counter. He saw the glasses being filled under the counter, and then sent a communication to the Police Station, and PS Davies came at 12.15am. He also saw the glasses filled, and at 12.30 he went in and took possession of the glasses, which contained whiskey. He told *Lee* he would be reported.

Phillips when spoken to said, ‘I am a friend of the licensee. I came into the house at 9.30 as a customer.’

Woolley said, ‘I have had that (meaning the drink) since I came in. I came in after 10 o’clock, as I am expecting a telephone message. I am a friend of the licensee.’ Mrs. Phillips said, ‘My glass is empty.’

When *Dagley* was seen and told of what had occurred, he replied, ‘I did not know anything about it until Sunday morning when I got up.’ That, said Mr. Brown, was quite true.

PC Parton and PS Davies corroborated as to what they saw.

Mr. Baker, who defended, said the whole question was one of hospitality, and he submitted that it was bona fide. The police officer had not said that he saw any money passed over.

The Bench found *Dagley* guilty and imposed a fine of £9 with £4 special costs, while *Lee* for supplying was fined £30 with £4 2s 6d costs, and the summonses for aiding and abetting were dismissed. Woolley was fined £5 with £1 costs, and Mr. and Mrs. Phillips £3 each and £1 costs.”

Closed

TALBOT

Walsall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mrs. Elizabeth Ash [] – 1849)

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/9/1849 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale.

To Key Stampers, Brokers, Publicans, Dealers, and Others.

To Be Sold By Auction by William Parkes, On the premises of the late *Elizabeth Ash*, key stamper and retailer of beer, TALBOT INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, on Tuesday, the second day of October, and Thursday, the fourth of October, 1849, to commence each morning at ten o’clock.

The First Day’s Sale, consists of four Stamps, large Bellows and Fixing, ten Presses, Vices, Hammers, fifty bundles of Iron, lots of Stamped Keys, various sizes and sorts, all the Shop Tools, and Stock-In-Trade, very good young Horse and two Carts.

Second Day’s Sale. All the clean and neat Household Furniture, brewing utensils, barrels, furnaces and effects.

Catalogues will be ready on Friday, and may be had at the office of the Auctioneer, Walsall Street, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/10/1849 - Advert

“Desirable Public House, Dwelling House, And Building Land, At Willenhall.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Mr. Parkes, At the house of Mr. Greader, the ALBION INN, in Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, on Thursday, the 1st day of November, 1849, at five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot I. All that Copyhold Messuage or Public House, called or known by the sign of the TALBOT INN, consisting of parlour, bar, large front and back kitchens, and cellaring underneath, with brewhouse, use of pump, extensive shopping, garden, and appurtenances at the back thereof, situate in Walsall Street, in Willenhall aforesaid, and late in the occupation of Mrs. *Elizabeth Ash*.

Lot II. All that Freehold Messuage or Dwelling House, consisting of parlour, front and back kitchens, with the appurtenances thereto; and also a valuable plot of Building Land, adjoining the same, situate and fronting a new street in Willenhall aforesaid, called Cross Street, and near to Butler’s Brook, having property of Mr. Hickman on one side, and of Mr. Jones on the other side thereof, and now in the occupation of William Edwards.

For further information apply to the Auctioneer, Willenhall, or to Messrs. Foster and Gough, Attorneys-at-law, Wolverhampton.”

TALBOT

Wolverhampton Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Robinson [1850]

NOTES

Check Market Place.

THREE CROWNS

73, (72+73), (21), Stafford Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Gibbs Mew [1997]

LICENSEES

James Carpenter [1822] – [1830]
James Hodson [1833] – [1842]
Edward Veal [1845]
Abraham Veal [1850]
Edward Veal [1851] – [1870]
Jesse Veal [] – **1871**);
John Bradley (**1871 – 1874**)
Henry Herbert Walker [1879] – [1881]
Edward James Mallin [1891] – [1904]
Robert Phillips [1908]
James Thomas McGill [1912]
Thomas Bailey [1916]
Sam Lawrence [1921]
Frederick Cowern [1932] – **1954**);
Mrs. Cowern (**1954 – []**)
William “Bill” J F Cowern [1966]
M Boyle [1983]
Keith Boden [] – **1985**)
John Fox [1994]

NOTES

21, Stafford Street [1871]
72+73, Stafford Street [1881], [1939], [2001], [2003]
73, Stafford Street [1932], [1940]

James Hodson = James Hudson

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/9/1838 - Notice

“Two Greyhounds Lost.

Lost, on Saturday, the 9th instant, a Fawn and White coloured Greyhound Dog, with a blemish on the point of the shoulder, answers to the name of ‘Smoker’; also a Black and White Greyhound Bitch (nearly white) answers to the name of ‘Rachel’. Whoever has found them, and will bring them to Mr. *James Hodson*, THREE CROWNS, Willenhall, shall be handsomely rewarded for his trouble, and all reasonable expenses paid; and whoever detains them after this notice will be prosecuted according to the law.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/8/1839 - Advert

“Freehold Building Land, in Willenhall, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by R. S. Walker, at the house of Mr. *Hodson*, the THREE CROWNS INN, in Willenhall, on Monday, the 2nd day of September, 1839, at five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced, and in one or more lots, as shall be fixed at the time of sale.

All that Parcel of Freehold Land, lately the site of the workhouse, in Willenhall, adjoining a lane called the Workhouse Lane, containing, by mensuration, 781 square yards, or thereabouts.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Foster, attorney, or the Auctioneer, both of Wolverhampton.”

1841 Census

Stafford Street

- [1] *James Hodson* (35), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Harriott Frouke (15), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [3] Mary Wright (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/3/1844 - Deaths

“On the 21st ult., Mr. *James Hodson*, late of the THREE CROWNS INN, Willenhall, aged 38 years.”

Edward Veal was also a tailor. [1845], [1849], [1850], [1851]

1851 Census

Stafford Street

- [1] *Edward Veal* (46), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Harriot Veal* (41), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Eliza Veal* (20), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Harriot Veal* (15), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Edward Veal* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Mary Veal* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Fanny Veal* (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *George Veal* (3), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

1861 Census

Stafford Street

- [1] *Edward Veal* (51), widower, publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Veal* (17), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Fanny Veal* (15), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *George Veal* (13), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] ____ *Veal* (7), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Ann Helby* (30), house servant, born Ireland:

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/10/1862

“*Edward Veale*, landlord of the THREE CROWNS INN, Stafford Street, was complained against for transacting his business during prohibited hours on the wake Sunday. The charge was fully proved by police-constable Ordish and another witness, and defendant was fined 10s and costs.

A goodly number of ‘drunk and disorderlies’, remnants of the wakes, were disposed of at the usual rate of 5s each.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“County Licensing Meeting, in Wolverhampton.

A special Petty Sessions, for the purpose of renewing and the granting of licenses to public-houses within the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North, was held at the Police Court, in Bilston Street, on Thursday.....

The following is the list of those who had been reported and fined during the past year for offences against their licenses.....

Edward Veal, of the THREE CROWNS, Stafford Street, Willenhall.....

They were now cautioned as to their future conduct, and their licenses were then renewed.”

1871 Census

21, Stafford Street

- [1] *John Bradley* (33), licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] *Mary Bradley* (27), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Harriet Bradley* (3), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Clara Bradley* (17 months), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Eliza Bradley* (19), niece, domestic servant, born Bilston;
- [6] *Sarah Ogle* (16), domestic servant, born London:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/5/1874

“The body of *John Bradley*, landlord of the THREE CROWNS INN, Willenhall, who a few days ago mysteriously disappeared, was found yesterday in a pool of water, within a mile and half of his home.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 21/12/1874

“At the Willenhall Police Court *John Gough* and *William Round*, butty miners, were summoned by *George Hyde*, a miner, for assaulting him; and a cross summons had been taken out by *William Round* against *George Hyde* for an assault upon him. Mr. *Vaughan* appeared for *Hyde* and Mr. *Creswell* was for *Round* and *Gough*.

According to the evidence of *Hyde* and his wife, he was at the THREE CROWNS INN, Stafford Street, Willenhall, on Monday evening, enjoying a pint of ale, and the two defendants came in. He inquired from *Round* concerning some coal due from him to his (*Hyde*’s) father in law, and he replied with bad language. *Hyde* then said he should bring the matter before the Union, and *Round* then struck him twice in so severe a manner that he fell insensible to the floor, and *Round* followed up the attack by kicking him. He sustained discolourations of his eyes, and was otherwise badly injured.

Round’s statement was, that *Hyde* conducted himself in a very rough manner towards him, and struck him twice. It was then that he (*Round*) pushed him, and as he continued to interfere with them, witness struck him, but no one else did so. He was not insen-

sible, and was on the floor only a few minutes. A number of witnesses were examined, but their evidence was of a very conflicting nature.

The Bench dismissed the case against Gough, and remarking that the evidence in the other case was too conflicting to enable them to arrive at a decision, they ordered Hyde and Round to divide the costs. It was evident, however, that a very serious assault had been committed on Hyde.”

1881 Census

72+73, Stafford Street – public

- [1] *Henry Herbert Walker* (42), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Fanny Walker* (44), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Samuel Walker* (20), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Henry Walker* (18), son, butcher, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Lizza Lowbridge* (18), general servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

Stafford Street – 3 CROWNS INN

- [1] *Edward Mallin* (53), licensed victualler, born Dudley Port;
- [2] *Ann Mallin* (53), wife, born Dudley Port;
- [3] *Eliza Mallin* (30), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Cristopher (?) J. Mallin* (22), son, born Tipton;
- [5] *May Mallin* (18), daughter, born Tipton;
- [6] *John Mallin* (16), son, born Tipton;
- [7] *Walter Mallin* (13), son, born Tipton:

1901 Census

Stafford Street – THREE CROWNS INN

- [1] *Edward J. Mallin* (62), widower, publican, born Dudley Port;
- [2] *John H. B. Mallin* (26), son, mechanical engineer, born Tipton;
- [3] *Walter William Mallin* (21), son, mechanical engineer, born Dudley Port;
- [4] *Georgina Bibbs* (33), housekeeper, born Hallsbury;
- [5] *Tamar Downes* (19), general servant, born Willenhall:

1939 Register

72+73, Stafford Street

- [1] *Frederick Cowern*, date of birth 1/9/1887, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Florence M. Cowern*, dob 26/3/1889, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *William John Frederick Cowern*, dob 14/1/1920, toolmaker's machinist, single:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall (Butlers) Darts League. [1946]

Bilston and Willenhall Times 13/7/1946

“At a well-attended meeting of Willenhall licensees, including those from Short Heath and Portobello areas, held on Tuesday night at the THREE CROWNS, Stafford Street, Willenhall, a decision was taken as to the hours, which it was suggested that the public houses in the town should be opened at weekends during the present beer shortage.

The meeting was arranged by Mr. S. S. Wood, of the NEW INN, Walsall Street, who presided, and after a long discussion it was unanimously agreed to recommend that the following hours for opening should be observed: Fridays, from 8.30 to 10pm; and Saturdays and Sundays from 12.30 to 2pm and 8.30 to 10pm. During the remaining days, opening is to be left to the discretion of the licensees, to suit their requirements according to supplies.”

F. Cowern was an ex- Regimental Sergeant major.
He died in 1954.

William Cowern was a Conservative councillor.

A team from here won the Darlaston Darts League Challenge Shield 1973 and 1976.

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn-Quiz. [1979], [1980]

[1996]

It was renamed GOLDMINE. [2007]

It was refurbished in 2007.

It reopened as the THREE CROWNS in 2007.

[2016]

THREE FURNACES

7, Stringes Lane / Alma Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1967]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Shepherd [1893] – [1924]
Miss Hannah Turton [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

1901 Census

Stringes Lane – THREE FURNACES

- [1] *Thomas Shepherd* (42), retired padlock smith, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary J. Shepherd* (40), wife, born Hagley, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Alfred Shepherd* (17), son, mortice locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Shepherd* (13), son, mortice locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Gertrude Shepherd* (10), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Arthur Shepherd* (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Joseph Shepherd* (10 months), son, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

7, Stringes Lane

- [1] *Thomas Shepherd* (52), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Jane Shepherd* (50), wife, married 28 years, born Hagley, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Alfred Shepherd* (27), son, cycle fitter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Shepherd* (23), son, cycle fitter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Gertie Shepherd* (20), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Arthur Shepherd* (14), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Joseph Shepherd* (10), son, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Harriet Maud Pitt* (18), servant, born Willenhall:

South Staffordshire Times 31/5/1924

“*Mr. Thomas Shepherd*, of the THREE FURNACES INN, Willenhall, who has been a licensee in the Willenhall district for 42 years, is about to retire. He has been at the THREE FURNACES INN for 31 years.”

Thomas Shepherd – see also PLOUGH.

1939 Register

7, Stringes Lane – Public House

- [1] *Hannah Turton*, date of birth 7/3/1887, beerhouse keeper, single;
- [2] *Dorothy May Turton*, dob 25/12/1894, incapacitated, single:

AND

- [1] *William Turton*, date of birth 7/3/1899, fitter and toolmaker, bolt and nut trade, married;
- [2] *Sarah Isabel Turton*, dob 8/10/1899, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [4] *Marshal Vivian Turton*, dob 25/3/1936, under school age, single:

THREE TUNS

24, King Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Thomas Williams
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Williams [1852] – 1862);
John Lawton (1862 – 1863);
David Baxter (1863 – [1865]
Edward Scott [1868] – [1874]
Esther Hattwell [] – 1875);
Charles Walters (1875 – []
Henry Lucas [1879]
Edward Roberts [] – 1881);
Joseph Davis (1881 – []
William Cliff [1884]
Nathaniel Wakelam (1887 – [1896]
John Scott [1904]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Williams*, of the THREE TUNS, King Street, Willenhall. Mr. Underhill opposed for the landlord of the QUEENS ARMS, on the ground that another licensed house was not required Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

“Mr. Whitehouse applied [for a spirit license] on behalf of Mr. *Williams*, of the THREE TUNS, King Street. Mr. Underhill opposed the granting of the license, on behalf of Mr. Parkes, of the KINGS ARMS. Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1855

“The annual licensing day for this district of the county was held at the County Magistrates’ Office, Bilston Street, in this town, on Thursday last Applications for new licenses.....

Mr. Whitehouse made an application on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Williams*, for a license to a house situate in King Street, Willenhall. Mr. Underhill opposed, on behalf of publicans in the immediate neighbourhood, and described the house of the applicant as being surrounded by houses of all signs, comprising lions red, black, and blue. Refused.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/10/1855

“W. Constable of Willenhall hearing that H. Margetts of London wishes for another match, will run him the distance he proposes, 120 yards, for £25 a side; to run at Rugby in three weeks from signing articles. By Margetts sending £5 to Bell’s Life, and articles to Constable, at Mr. *Williams’s*, THREE TUNS, Willenhall, Staffordshire, the match can be made.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1856

“Applications for new licenses. There were fourteen applications altogether for licenses to sell spirits – all from beershop keepers – only four of which were granted by the Magistrates.

Mr. Whitehouse, attorney, applied for a license on behalf of *Thomas Williams*, THREE TUNS INN, Willenhall. The claimant had occupied the house as his own property for many years, during which no complaint had ever been made against him; his certificate had been signed by the churchwardens and other respectable inhabitants; the premises afforded excellent accommodation, including a smoke room which the respectable neighbours were in the habit of frequenting after the toils of the day, and where they sometimes got tired of drinking Mr. *Williams’s* ale, excellent as it was, and longed for a glass of brandy or gin; and since the last license had been granted 300 new houses had been built in the immediate neighbourhood. In answer to a question from the Bench, Mr. Whitehouse said that the nearest licensed house was that of Mr. Charles Perks, whose back premises adjoined those of the applicant, but the fronts were in different streets. Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/4/1858 - Advert

“Wanted. A single young man, to live in the house, to attend to a horse and car, and make himself generally useful. None need apply who cannot produce a good character from his last employer.
Apply to Mr. *Thomas Williams*, THREE TUNS INN, King Street, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“.....Mr. Hayes made the last application on the list. It was for a license to the THREE TUNS, Willenhall, kept by Mr. *Thomas Williams*. He said that this was the only inn in Willenhall where cars are kept, and that Mr. *Williams* had afforded much accommodation to the inhabitants by providing cars in the town. When persons arriving in Willenhall by train for two or three days' stay were conveyed into the town by the applicant's cars, it was natural that they should go to Mr. *Williams*' house, but in many cases they had been compelled to leave, in consequence of the inability of the landlord to supply them with wines and spirits. Mr. Hall, surveyor, explained a plan of the neighbourhood, which he had prepared in this case, showing that the buildings around Mr. *Williams*'s house were increasing.

Mr. H. Underhill, however, in opposition, contended that no increase had taken place since the last application for a license was made, and refused. He also said that in the immediate locality there were four licensed inns, the nearest being only separated from the applicant's by 70 yards.

The license was granted, but on a police officer being called to prove the service of the usual notices on the proper parties, it transpired that the officer had not served the parish constable, he having been informed that a service on the superintendent of police would suffice. However, this service was held to be invalid, and therefore the applicant will not have the benefit of a spirit license this year.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting for the renewal of Victuallers' licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for licenses, for the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. Hayes applied for a license for the THREE TUNS beerhouse, King Street, Willenhall, kept by *Thomas Williams*. Mr. Hayes reminded the Bench that last year the Magistrates decided to grant the license, but through an informality in the serving of the notice they were compelled to reverse their decision. In support of the applicant Mr. Hayes remarked that the house was the property of the applicant; it had been built by him at a cost of £600, was very commodious, and had been carried on by him as a beer-house for a number of years without any complaint having been made. It was further stated that the applicant was the only car proprietor in Willenhall, and also that the revising barrister had selected Mr. *Williams*' house as the most commodious, and had held his court there last year.

Mr. Underhill opposed for Mrs. Perks, of the QUEENS ARMS INN, and Mr. Hartill, of the ACORN INN, and contended that the applicant's house being situate in a street at the upper end of which there was no outlet, and there being already a number of licensed houses in the immediate neighbourhood no additional accommodation was required. Since the last application was made Mr. Underhill said his client, Mrs. Perks, had also started cars, and with respect to the revising barrister having held his court there Mr. Underhill humourously suggested that this gentleman was met at the railway station, and not knowing anything of Willenhall was conveyed in one of the applicant's cars to the applicant's house. The license was granted.”

Thomas Williams was also a brass padlock and trunk lock maker. [1860]

1861 Census

King Street

- [1] *Thomas Williams* (50), locksmith employing 2 men, born Tamworth;
- [2] Henrietta Williams (51), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Mary Ash (13), niece, born Willenhall;
- [4] Mary Townsend (20), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [5] William Thompson (20), general servant, birthplace NK:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/5/1862

“At the County Petty Sessions, held in this town, on Monday last the following licenses were transferred that of the THREE TUNS, Willenhall, from *Thomas Williams*, of Willenhall, to *John Lawton*, formerly a police officer.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1863

“At a special meeting of the Magistrates, a number of tradesmen of the Willenhall township were summoned by Mr. Tollet, the inspector of weights and measures for district C, or South Staffordshire, for having in their possession short weights and measures, of various descriptions. The cases were the result of a visit made to the various shops and public houses, on the 15th of February last.....

John Lawton, THREE TUNS public house, Willenhall, fined 20s and costs, in all 33s.”

David Baxter = David Bagster

Birmingham Daily Post 14/7/1863

“The following transfers were ordered at the County Petty Sessions.....

Mr. Williams, owner of the THREE TUNS public house, Willenhall, applied for a new licence for that house. *John Lawton*, the former occupier, had deserted the premises, and having taken the licence with him, and having refused to give it up, the present application was made in favour of *David Bagster*, the new tenant. A new licence was granted.”

Edward Scott, beer retailer, King Street. [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.

Edward Scott, THREE TUNS, Willenhall, selling during prohibited hours, 5s and costs; permitting drunkenness, 2s 6d and costs; and for a similar offence on another occasion, 20s and costs; a remark of ‘a notoriously bad house’ attached.”

1871 Census

King Street

[1] *Edward Scott* (45), ___king master and publican, born Dudley Port;

[2] *Esther Scott* (42), wife, born Wednesfield;

[3] *Sarah James* (16), general servant, born Portobello:

Midland Counties Evening Express 19/4/1875

“*Charles Walters*, licensed victualler, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house. Mr. Clark defended. Police-constable Ainsworth said that about five o’clock in the afternoon of the 29th ult, he visited the THREE TUNS public house, King Street, and there saw a man named John Smith, who was drunk and apparently asleep. There was a jug on the table, and a man who sat next to Smith lifted it to Smith’s mouth while he drank from it. Witness told the landlady that Smith was drunk, and she replied, ‘Yes; but he has only been in the house five minutes.’

John Smith said he went into the defendant’s house on Easter Monday at half past one in the afternoon, after drinking at three other public houses. He remained and paid for five quarts of beer, and drank his share with others. He did not think he was drunk. He was not sober, but he did not think he was so drunk as he had been on former occasions. He stayed in the house until taken out by the last witness. He was before the magistrates a fortnight ago and fined for being drunk. For the defence it was contended that Smith did not remain in the house all the afternoon, but that he had been out of the house a long time.”

[Walters was fined 10s and costs, but his license was not endorsed.]

Evening Star 4/3/1882 - Advert

“Wanted, a Pianist; young Man required.

Apply THREE TUNS INN, King Street, Willenhall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/5/1884

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *William Cliff*, landlord of the THREE TUNS INN, King Street, Willenhall, was charged with keeping his premises open for the sale of intoxicants during prohibited hours.

On the 4th inst Police-constable Moss watched the house after eleven o’clock. He saw several women go into the house and come out again with something under their aprons.

Inspector Cook said the house was a very bad one. Only recently he had received a letter from a married lady complaining of it. A fine of £5 and costs was imposed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/7/1884 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. D. W. Lees (by order of the Mortgagee), at the house of Mr. David Bickley, the NEW INN, Willenhall, on Thursday, the 7th day of August, 1884, at 6 for 7 o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions (which will incorporate the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).

All that Freehold Old-Licensed Public-House, known as the THREE TUNS INN, and situate in King Street, Willenhall, in the occupation of Mr. *William Cliff*, together with the Goodwill and Possession thereof.

The House contains Liquor Vaults, Bar Parlour, large Kitchen, fitted with baking oven; three light and dry Cellars, with entrance from Yard, and six large Bed Rooms.

There is also attached to the house a large Concert Room, with small Stage, and two Dressing Rooms. This room is fitted with gas, and suitable seats, and will accommodate 200 persons.

The Property also includes Stable, Malt Room, and Yard.

The site, which is Freehold, contains 359 square yards.

An Inventory of the Fixtures and Effects, which will have to be taken to, may be seen at the office of the undersigned.

A large portion of the purchase money may remain on a Mortgage of the Property.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneer, Willenhall, or to Messrs. Wilkinson, Gillespie, and Wilkinson, Solicitors, Walsall.”

1891 Census

24, King Street – THREE TUNS

[1] *Nathaniel Wakeman* (42), polisher and publican, born Willenhall;

- [2] Harriet Wakelam (40), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Louisa Wakelam (15), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] John Wakelam (12), son, telegraph boy, born Willenhall;
- [5] Joseph Wakelam (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] George Wakelam (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] Alice Wakelam (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] Nelly Wakelam (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] Phoebe Wakelam (1 month), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [10] Fanny Lathe (19), niece, born Willenhall;
- [11] Thomas Bailey (29), boarder, forger, born Willenhall:

Nathaniel Wakelam – see also FALCON.

1901 Census

24, King Street – THREE TUNS

- [1] *Lucy Knowles* (18), domestic servant, born Brownhills;
- [2] Sarah A. Walton (17), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [3] Alice M. Corkindale (5), visitor, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1906

“At the adjourned Brewster Sessions for the Hundred of Seisdon North, held at Wolverhampton yesterday, the Bench granted an application on behalf of Joseph R. Lovatt for the removal of a license from the THREE TUNS INN, Willenhall, to a proposed new house at the corner of Prosser Street and Stratton Street, New Village. The application was acceded to subject to the surrender of the following licenses: THREE TUNS INN, Willenhall; Old Heath Brewery, Heath Town; and the CRESCENT TAVERN, Willenhall.”

[1983] ?

THREE TUNS

8, Walsall Road, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
 Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
 Maple Leaf Inns

LICENSEES

Williams—[1855]

Meschach Rowley [1859] – **1874**);
 William Rowley (**1874** – [1876]
 Thomas Pierce (**1880 – 1881**);
 Edmund Parker (**1881** – [1882]
 Miss Lucy Jones Pitt (**1885** – [1896]
 Henry Meller [1901]
 Mrs. Mary Meller [1904]
 William Henry Corbett [1908]
 Richard F Turpin [1911] – [1916]
 Henry C Turpin [1921] – [1932]
 Mrs. Mary Jane Bevan [1940]
 Thomas Everitt (**1943 – 1965**);
 Mrs. Mary Everitt (**1965** – [1992]
 Ranjit Singh [2007]

NOTES

It was known locally as “The Steps”.

It was damaged by fire.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/10/1855

“W. Constable of Willenhall hearing that H. Margetts of London wishes for another match, will run him the distance he proposes, 120 yards, for £25 a side; to run at Rugby in three weeks from signing articles. By Margetts sending £5 to Bell’s Life, and articles to Constable, at Mr. Williams’s, THREE TUNS, Willenhall, Staffordshire, the match can be made.”

Meschach Rowley = Meshach Rowley = Meashach Rowley = Meshech Rowley

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting for the renewal of Victuallers’ licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for licenses, for the Wolverhampton division of Seisdon North was held on Thursday last.....

Mr. Parkes applied for a license for the THREE TUNS, Walsall Road, Willenhall, kept by *Meshach Rowley*. Mr. Hayes made a similar application on behalf of Samuel Taylor, the landlord of the MILL STREET TAVERN, Mill Street, Willenhall. Mr. H. Underhill opposed for Mr. Perks, of the QUEENS ARMS, and Mr. Hartill, of the ACORN. Both applications were refused.”

1861 Census

Walsall Road – THREE TUNS INN, and provision shop

- [1] *Meshach Rowley* (48), general rim lock manufacturer and beer seller, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sarah Rowley (46), wife, born Bilbrook;
- [3] Tabitha Rowley (22), daughter, barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [4] Samuel Rowley (18), son, rim lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [5] Meshach Rowley (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Elizabeth Oxford (73), unmarried, mother, school mistress, born Bushbury;
- [7] Hannah Marston (73), widow, mother in law, school mistress, born Bilbrook;
- [8] Charlotte Wilkes (21), general servant, born Bristol:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861

“Mr. Waterhouse made an application on behalf of Mr. *Mesach Rowley*, for a license to a house situated on the Willenhall and Walsall turnpike road, in the outskirts of Willenhall, and in a district which, he said, had lately sprung up. The nearest public houses were the QUEENS ARMS, which was about 143 yards distant, and the ACORN, which lay 156 yards away from his client’s house. Thirty one dwellings had been erected since last year, and there was a population of 1,100 in the locality. The owners of the property surrounding the house had signed the applicant’s certificate, and the case he (Mr. Waterhouse) considered a strong one in Mr. *Rowley*’s favour.

Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of the occupiers of the ACORN and the QUEENS ARMS, and said that within a distance of 350 yards of Mr. *Rowley*’s house there were three public houses, and he thought it would require a good deal to persuade the Magistrates that they were not sufficient to meet the wants of the district.

The Bench refused the application.....”

Meshech Rowley, retailer of beer, Walsall Road. [1862]

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/6/1863

“Twenty-one old people, natives of Willenhall, whose united ages amounted to 1690 years, were provided with a substantial dinner on Monday last, by Mr. *Rowley*, of the THREE TUNS INN, Walsall Road. The health of her Majesty, proposed by a man 91 years of age, was received with great cordiality by the patriarchal guests.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/8/1863

“At the Licensing Court for the Wolverhampton division. Seisdon North, held yesterday.....

New applications (of old licences?)

Meashach Rowley, THREE TUNS, Walsall Road, refused.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/3/1864 - Deaths

“On the 10th inst, at her son’s, Mr. *M. Rowley*, of the THREE TUNS, Walsall Road, Willenhall, Mrs. Elizabeth Oxford, aged 75 years; deeply regretted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1864

“The annual meeting for the renewal and granting of licenses to publicans for the Wolverhampton Division of Seisdon North, was held yesterday, at the County Police Court, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.....

Mr. Henry Underhill, solicitor, applied for a license to *Meshach Rowley*, of the THREE TUNS, on the Walsall Road. In doing so he expressed pleasure that the Magistrates had determined not to grant licenses except in cases where there was an acknowledged necessity for them, and where also there was the requisite accommodation; and further, that they had weeded out the inferior applications, and had reduced the total number of applicants to three, the claims for which were all such as could not be gainsaid. The Willenhall district had vastly increased in population and extent in the past seven years, and excepting only Little London,

in no part of the district had the increase been so marked as on the Walsall Road. No license had been granted for that neighbourhood for the past seventeen or eighteen years, the only licensed houses there being the QUEENS ARMS, situated about one hundred and fifty yards from the THREE TUNS in one direction, and the ACORN, situated about one hundred and sixty yards off in another line; and yet, since the period when Mr. Rowley first applied for a license to his house, seven years ago, the 700 houses at about that spot had become 1,000. Mr. Rowley built the THREE TUNS himself, and during the six years that he had kept it no complaints had been made against him.

Mr. Thurstans opposed the application, not because of the character of either Mr. Rowley or his house would not bear investigation, but because the two houses already named, supplied all the accommodation that was needed in the locality. Mr. Rowley had pressed his application year after year for seven years, but had always been refused. Only one house had been put up in the neighbourhood during the last year, and that was a beerhouse.....

The Magistrates reserved their decision on all these applications until the adjourned licensing day.”

[Granted at the Adjourned Licensing Meeting.]

Meschach Rowley was also a rim and mortice lock manufacturer.

Meschach Rowley, lock manufacturer and beer retailer, Walsall Road. [1865]

1871 Census

Walsall Road

[1] *Meshach Rowley* (58), locksmith employing 3 boys, and publican, born Willenhall;

[2] Sarah Rowley (56), wife, born Codsall;

[3] Meshach Rowley (13), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;

[4] Bertha Rowley (30), daughter, barmaid, born Willenhall;

[5] Hannah Marston (80), mother in law, widow, annuitant, born Codsall;

[6] Samuel Asbury (20), apprentice lock smith, born Dudley;

[7] Sarah Ann Hoof (7), granddaughter, scholar, born Bloxwich;

[8] Louesia Foxhall (16), general servant, born Bloxwich;

[9] John Cund (13), apprentice lock smith, born Willenhall:

Meschach Rowley was described as also being a locksmith. [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/1/1876

“Local Police Courts. Wolverhampton. Friday. (Before I Spooner, Esq.)

William Rowley, landlord of the THREE TUNS, Willenhall, was shown to have supplied a man with rum during prohibited hours on Sunday. On the part of the defendant it was pleaded that he supplied the liquor on the following medical certificate: ‘Please supply bearer with two ounces of rum for medicinal purposes. J. Hartill, surgeon. 26 - 12.’ Mr. Spooner said this was simply a mockery, and no excuse at all. Publicans must keep within the law. As, however, the house had been kept by one family without complaint for 21 years the justice of the case, he thought, would be satisfied by the defendant being ordered to pay costs.”

Thomas Pierce = Thomas Pearce

Evening Express 12/1/1881

“*Thomas Pierce*, landlord of the THREE TUNS INN, Walsall Road, Willenhall, was charged with selling liquor in the early hours of Christmas morning, and also with harbouring a member of the county police force, named Halfpenny, while on duty.

Mr. H. Brevitt prosecuted on the instructions of Captain Congreve, chief constable of the county, and the police were further represented in Court by Chief-superintendent Longden; Mr. R. A. Willcock defended.

Police-sergeant Lavin, stationed at Little London, said he went to the defendant’s house at a quarter to three o’clock on Christmas morning, and there saw six people who did not reside there, among whom was a police officer named Halfpenny, who had since been dismissed from the force. Halfpenny was drunk. Witness saw no money pass and no ale served upon the table, but a jug of ale was supplied to a woman who was going out as witness went out. Five people went out, including a man and wife named Rowley, and another couple named Hancox.

By Mr. Willcock: His attention was first attracted to the house by hearing singing.

The case for the defence was that no offence had been committed under the Act. On Christmas Eve the Rowleys went in the house, with their son, to ask for a bed for the latter, as they had visitors at their house; Hancox was the cellarman, and his wife cleaned up at the THREE TUNS, and it was in return for those services that Mrs. Hancox received the ale of which Lavin had spoken, the woman having in the meantime sung a Christmas carol, which was the means of attracting the sergeant to the house. Halfpenny walked into the house at the back at half past two, and had only been there about a quarter of an hour when the sergeant arrived. The officer did not sit down, and the landlord had the idea that he had come for the purpose of seeing whether any drink was being supplied. He walked in while the door was open for cleaning purposes.

The defendant and Mrs. Rowley were called in support of this statement, and the case was dismissed.”

1881 Census

8, Walsall Road – THREE TUNS

[2] Caroline Pierce (53), wife, born Fradley, Staffordshire;

[3] Annie M. Pierce (18), daughter, born Drayton Bassett, Staffordshire;

- [4] Alice Pierce (12), daughter, scholar, born Drayton Bassett, Staffordshire;
[5] Ada Pierce (10), daughter, scholar, born Drayton Bassett, Staffordshire;
[6] Amy Pierce (7), daughter, scholar, born Drayton Bassett, Staffordshire:

Evening Express 18/4/1881

“*Thomas Pearce* [sic], landlord of the THREE TUNS, Walsall Road, Willenhall, appeared in answer to a summons charging him with contravening the Act 35 and 36 Victoria cap, 94, by not having his name over the door of the premises of which he is licensed.

Inspector Cock said the defendant had the license fully transferred to him in October last, but the name of the former holder had not yet been removed from over the door, and the defendant had positively refused to have his own name instituted, on the ground that he intended to leave the place.

Another officer said the defendant told him he would go to prison rather than put his name over the door.

The defendant informed the Bench that he did not take 5s a week in the house, and was so disgusted that he would not stay.

The magistrates said the law ought to have been complied with, and the defendant was fined 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/9/1881

“At the County Police Court, on Monday, the adjourned licensing sessions for Wolverhampton division of the county was held The following licenses of houses situate at Willenhall were fully transferred the THREE TUNS INN, Walsall Road, to *Edmund Parker*, Commercial Road, Wolverhampton.”

Evening Star 21/1/1882

“William Emery, New Street, Wednesfield, an iron-caster, was summoned for being disorderly on licensed premises.

Edmund Parker, proprietor of the THREE TUNS, Walsall Street, Willenhall (the prosecutor) stated that on the 16th inst, the defendant was very disorderly on his premises.

Police-constable Chisholm corroborated, and the Bench fined the defendant 2s 6d and costs, which was paid.”

1891 Census

Walsall Road – THREE TUNS INN

- [1] *Lucy Jones Pitt* (54), single, licensed victualler, born Bilston;
[2] Matilda Elizabeth Murry (16), domestic servant, born Darlaston;
[3] William Causer (24), boarder, locksmith, born Willenhall;
[4] Mary Wilks Robinson (52), visitor, born Darlaston:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/8/1891

“At the Police Court, yesterday, George Hill (41), and William Bateman (35), were again charged with stealing nine gallons of porter, the property of Miss *Lucy Jones Pitt*, landlady of the THREE TUNS INN, Walsall Road, Willenhall.

The prosecutrix had a refreshment tent at the recent flower show in the grounds of the Central School, and it was alleged the prisoners had removed a barrel containing porter.

They denied the charge, but were committed for trial.”

1901 Census

Walsall Road – THREE TUNS TAVERN

- [1] *Henry Meller* (43), publican (lock-up), born Hill Top, West Bromwich;
[2] *Mary Meller* (44), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] Mary J. Meller (20), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[4] William Meller (16), son, gold (?) work labourer, born Bloxwich;
[5] John Meller (14), son, born Bloxwich;
[6] Catherine Meller (13), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[7] Margaret Meller (11), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[8] Phoebe Meller (8), daughter, born Bloxwich;
[9] George Ball (6), grandson, born Bloxwich;
[10] Silas Sergeant (20), boarder, hairdresser, born Bloxwich:

1911 Census

Walsall Road – THREE TUNS

- [1] *Richard Turpin* (35), publican, born Wellington, Shropshire;
[2] Sarah Ann Turpin (33), wife, married 14 years, assisting in the business, born Aston, Staffordshire;
[3] Mary Ellen Turpin (13), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
[4] Richard C. Turpin (12), son, school, born Willenhall;
[5] David Henry Turpin (7), son, school, born Willenhall;
[6] Emma Jane Turpin (6), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
[7] Richard Turpin (4), son, school, born Willenhall;
[8] Clara Turpin (1), daughter, born Willenhall:

1964 Probate

“*Thomas Everitt*, of THREE TUNS, Walsall Road, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 19 March 1964, Administration Birmingham 4 November to *Mary Everitt*, widow. Effects £3,278.”

Express & Star 30/7/2020

“The THREE TUNS in Willenhall was closed earlier this afternoon when a coronavirus outbreak emerged through the test and trace system. It has since reopened. Council bosses are working with the Walsall Road pub and Public Health England to ascertain how many people may have become infected. It is believed those infected were family members. Walsall Council leader, Mike Bird, said the pub had closed with the owner’s consent before reopening. ‘To their great credit they appear to have done everything right,’ he added. ‘They have got test and trace in place and are an example of good practice. The process is now underway to track down people who have been there.’”

[2020]

TIGER

68, (16), Stafford Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Johnson and Phipps
J. P. Simpkins [1983]

LICENSEES

Thomas Wright [1871] – [1891]
Edward Wright [1899]
Edwin Wright [1901] – [1904]
Frank Wright [1911] – [1912]
Arthur T Jenkins [1932]
Mrs. Eliza Jenkins [1939] – [1940]
Bernard Cope [1981] – [1983]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Wright, retailer of beer, Stafford Street. [1862]
Thomas Wright, beer retailer, Stafford Street. [1864], [1870], [1872]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/1/1868 - Advert

“Draper’s Shop to Let, Market Place, Willenhall. Immediate possession. No Stock. Counter, Fixtures, and the whole of Gas-fittings, £9. Rent, £15.

Apply, W. Keates, next door to *Wright’s* Public House, Stafford Street, Willenhall.”

1871 Census

16, Stafford Street

- [1] *Thomas Wright* (58), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Elizabeth Wright (49), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Elenor Screen (14), domestic servant, born Sinderhill, Staffordshire:

1881 Census

Stafford Street – Public House

- [1] *Thomas Wright* (69), beerhouse keeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Elizabeth Wright (59), wife, born Wolverhampton:

Darlaston Weekly Times 10/11/1883

“At Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, *Thomas Wright*, beerhouse keeper, Stafford Street, Willenhall, was fined 20s and costs for permitting drunkenness on his premises on October 27th.

PC Lightfoot and Lawton visited the house, and there found a man so drunk that he could not stand. The man was ordered away when the landlord's attention was called to him, but only went into another room, eventually having to be led away by a woman. George Hoare, the man referred to, was fined 2s 6d and costs for drunkenness."

1891 Census

Stafford Street – TIGER INN

- [1] *Thomas Wright* (79), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] J. G. Wright (36), relative, die sinker, born Willenhall;
- [3] M. A. Green (23), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [4] Ann Bully (21), housekeeper, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Licensing Sessions - August 1899 - license renewal opposed "on grounds he [*Edward Wright*] had built a 50 foot extension" to house a private kitchen, scullery and toilet.

1901 Census

68, Stafford Street – TIGER INN

- [1] *Edwin Wright* (56), widower, beer retailer and die sinker, born Willenhall;
- [2] Betsy Jane Wright (54), sister, housekeeper, born Willenhall;
- [3] Frank Wright (3), son, die sinker, born Willenhall;
- [4] Alice Lester (24), general servant, born Bilston:

Edwin Wright, beer retailer, 68, Stafford Street. [1904]

See also WAGGON AND HORSES.

1911 Census

Stafford Street

- [1] *Frank Wright* (41), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Maud Wright (36), wife, married 5 years, head teacher, born Willenhall;
- [3] Winifred Lowe (17), servant, born Willenhall:

Frank Wright, beer retailer, 68, Stafford Street. [1912]

Walsall Observer 29/9/1917 - Advert

"Bar-General Wanted; references required.

Apply, Mrs. *Wright*, the TIGER, Stafford Street, Willenhall."

[This was repeated on 6th October.]

Arthur T. Jenkins, beer retailer, 68, Stafford Street. [1932]

1939 Register

68, Stafford Street

- [1] *Eliza Jenkins*, date of birth 10/8/1882, public house manageress, widowed;
- [2] Eileen (Jenkins) Minors, dob 16/3/1918, unpaid domestic duties, single;
- [3] John T. Minors, dob 16/4/1918, confectioner's baker, single:

Bernard Cope was married to Sally.

Closed

It reopened after refurbishment.

[1998]

Closed [2004], [2007]

It was converted into offices. [2009]

TRUE BRITON

34, (26), New Road, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd. [1912]

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Sale [1881] – **1882**;
Mrs. Charlotte Sale (**1882**);
John Henry Cooke (**1882** – []
Charles Morris (**1884** – []
Daniel Banks [1901]
Silas Banks [1911] – [1912]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

William Sale = William Salt

1881 Census

26, New Road

[1] *William Sale* (69), inn keeper, born Wellington, Shropshire;

[2] *Charlotte Sale* (69), wife, born Oakengates, Shropshire:

County Express 12/11/1881

“Sale of Reversionary Interests in Valuable Freehold and Copyhold Properties and Personal Estate, at Wednesfield and Willenhall, near Wolverhampton.

Messrs. Insull and Son have received instructions from the Mortgagee to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. Macdonald, the GEORGE HOTEL, Willenhall, on Tuesday, the 15th day of November next, at seven o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read.

Two Eighth-Shares of and in the following Properties.

Four well-built Dwelling Houses and Public House, known by the Sign of the TRUE BRITON, situate New Road, Willenhall, in the occupation of Messrs. Hilton, Page, Foster, Barker, and *Salt*, producing at low rentals £85 per annum.....”

William Sale died in the 2nd quarter of 1882.

Edinburgh Gazette 9/7/1897

“Bankrupts. Receiving Orders.....

Ward, Thomas, 5, Peel-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, and residing at the TRUE BRITON beerhouse, 34, New-road, Willenhall aforesaid galvanizer, and late beerhouse keeper.....”

1901 Census

26, New Road

[1] *Daniel Banks* (41), locksmith and beerseller, born Willenhall;

[2] Clara Banks (37), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Albert Banks (18), son, die sinker, born Willenhall;

[4] Charles Banks (17), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;

[5] Emily Smith (9), visitor, born Felton, Wales;

[6] Fanny Batson (15), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Daniel Banks – see also CROWN, Cheapside, and NAVIGATION.

Birmingham Mail 10/3/1906

“Air-Gun Shooting. The League Tables.

It is not every air-gunner who takes an interest in figures (except perhaps his own particular league table), but to those who do, probably a summary of the 33 league tables which appeared in last week's issue will provide congenial reading, as showing the ups and downs which most clubs experience during a league season. Eight clubs have successfully resisted all attacks so far this season, and hold an unbeaten record, viz.....

TRUE BRITON (Willenhall), 18 matches.”

1911 Census

26, New Road

- [1] *Silas Banks* (64), locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Elizabeth Banks* (58), wife, married 40 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Mary Elizabeth Banks* (32), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *May Eidith Banks* (20), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Horace Banks* (18), son, locksmith, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/6/1912 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, at Eleven o’clock am, on Thursday, the 18th Day of July, 1912. And Notice Is Hereby Also Given, that the Compensation Authority will at the Meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the Renewal of the Licenses of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard; that is to say, the Persons interested in any Licensed Premises in question, and, unless it appears to the Compensation Authority unnecessary, any other persons appearing to them to be interested in the question of the renewal of the license of those premises (including the Justices of the Licensing District). List of Licensed Premises.....

TRUE BRITON, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Silas Banks*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/8/1912 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 18th day of July, 1912, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below, all Persons Claiming to be Interested in the said Premises for the purpose of the Payment of Compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 26th day of August, 1912, for the purpose of enabling the Compensation Authority to ascertain in manner provided by the Licensing Rules, 1910, the Persons entitled to Compensation under the said Act, in respect of the said Premises.....

TRUE BRITON, Willenhall. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Silas Banks*. Registered Owner, Lichfield Brewery Co. Ltd.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/1/1913

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.....

The County Licensing Committee presented the following report.....

The committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon are satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.

In the following twenty-five cases the committee fixed the compensation.....

TRUE BRITON, Willenhall, beerhouse ante 1869, £500.....

The money has been apportioned amongst the interested parties and will be paid out on the 21st of December.”

TUMBLEDOWN BRIDGE

23+24, (24), Railway Lane, (1, Railway Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Henry Wakelam [1861] – [1879]

Samuel Hargrove [1881]

Thomas Banks [1891] – [1901]

Jonah Banks [1911]

Arthur Wheatley [1913] – [1940]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/7/1858

“The usual fortnightly meeting of the Local Board of Health was held on Monday evening last.....

The Surveyor submitted a plan of a brewhouse and premises to be erected by Mr. *Henry Wakelam*, in Railway Street, which received the approval of the Board.”

1861 Census

Railway Lane

- [1] *Henry Wakelam* (43), locksmith employing 1 man, born Willenhall;
- [2] Elizabeth Wakelam (41), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Arthur Wakelam (13), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] Fanny Wakelam (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Susan Wakelam (4), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Titus Wakelam (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] Harriett Wakelam (19), house servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/10/1870

“At the Wolverhampton County Court, yesterday, before Mr. Skinner, QC, Judge, *Henry Wakelam*, beer-seller, Railway Lane, New Road, Willenhall, sued Thomas Russon, lockmaker, The Dale, New Road, Willenhall, to recover £10 7s 11d upon a bill, the first item of which was £5 19s 3d, which was admitted by the defendant. Mr. J. E. Underhill appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Clark for the defence.

Mr Underhill said that the last item of 16s 3d was also admitted. He would call the plaintiff, who would prove he delivered a barrel of ale to defendant, for which he charged 19s. Three guineas credit was given, which the plaintiff said was made up of some draws which he was entitled to from a money club, and 15s, which was part of the price of a watch ticket, which defendant asked the plaintiff’s wife to buy for 25s.

Mrs. Wakelam was called, and said that as to the £5 19s 3d there was a payment of three guineas, which was £2 8s from the money club, and 15s the price of the watch ticket.

Mr. Clarke said defendant claimed that there were only four nights owing to the club, instead of nine.

Defendant said he would swear that the barrel of ale was paid for.

His Honour said that the evidence was somewhat incomplete, but under the circumstances he was inclined to agree with the plaintiff. There would be a judgement for the amount claimed, to be paid at the rate of £1 a month, six weeks being given to make the first payment.”

1871 Census

1, Railway Street

- [1] *Henry Wakelam* (53), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] Elizabeth Wakelam (50), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Arthur Wakelam (23), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [4] Fanny Wakelam (18), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Susan Wakelam (14), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Henry F. Wakelam (13), son, born Willenhall;

Cannock Chase Examiner 29/8/1874

“On Thursday, the annual Brewster Licensing Session for the Wolverhampton division of the division of the hundred of Seisdon North, was held in the Town Hall.....

Mr. Clarke, in asking for a spirit license for *Henry Wakelam*, TUMBLE-DOWN-BRIDGE INN, Willenhall, pointed out that his client had kept the house for 16 years, and during 14 years had not the slightest complaint made against him. Mr. Barrow opposed the application on behalf of Messrs. Leary and Ford, publicans, stating the present drinking accommodation in the locality was sufficient. The latter fact was admitted by the applicant, under examination by Mr. Barrow Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/10/1877

“The prophecy from America last week that England would shortly be visited by a gale of unprecedented severity has been verified in a manner which leaves little doubt of the truthfulness of the forewarning we received, although the cyclone which passed over the greater part of England during the night of the 14th and morning of the 15th came at a later period than had been anticipated.....

Willenhall..... At the TUMBLE-DOWN BRIDGE INN, Railway Lane, a gable was blown down, and the descent of a chimney through the roof covered with debris a bed in which two young men were sleeping, lacerating the arm of one and hurting the foot of the other. Had the head of the bed been in an opposite direction it would have been impossible that the sleepers could have escaped with their lives.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 28/1/1879

“Job Toovey and John White, of Darlaston, were charged with stealing a pair of eye-glasses, the property of *Henry Wakelam*, keeper of the TUMBLE-DOWN BRIDGE beerhouse, Willenhall.

On the 24th inst, the prisoners were in the prosecutor’s house, and after they had gone the glasses were missed from a chimney-piece. The prisoners were suspected, and on Police-constable Malone accusing them of having committed the theft, they did not deny the accusation. Toovey said that White took the glasses and put them in a closet, from which he went and fetched them.

Toovey, having been in trouble before, was now sent to gaol for one month with hard labour, and White was committed for a week.”

1881 Census

24, Railway Lane

- [1] *Samuel Hargrove* (32), lock manufacturer and licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Sarah A. Hargrove (27), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Annie E. Hargrove (3), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] John W. Hargrove (7 months), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] John Everitt (62), boarder, lock maker, born Hatherston, Staffordshire;
- [6] Mary O'Donnell (20), general servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

Railway Lane – TUMBLE DOWN BRIDGE INN

- [1] *Thomas Banks* (62), boot maker, born Willenhall;
- [2] Cedonia Banks (59), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Harriet Banks (4), grand-daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Harriet Backer (16), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [5] James Cowper (32), boarder, presser, born Moxley:

1901 Census

Railway Lane

- [1] *Thomas Banks* (72), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Sidonia Banks (69), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] James Cowper (43), boarder, lock presser, born Willenhall;
- [4] Alice Poultney (22), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [5] Harriet Banks (14), grand-daughter, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

24, Railway Lane

- [1] *Jonah Banks* (47), brewer and beer retailer, born Willenhall;
- [2] Minnie Banks (47), wife, married 26 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] Ruth Banks (25), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Alice Banks (22), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Dora Banks (15), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
- [6] Sarah Banks (11), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
- [7] Sarah Eccleston (74), mother-in-law, widow, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/11/1913

“Christmas Card League. Over 900 Members.

Dear Chicks,

I had to get the Lady Editor to write to you yesterday; I was so busy arranging about sending you the names of the poor children. Do you know that there are thousands of cards for you to send if we are going to send the postman to all the houses that I cannot visit? We have today 902 members. I am relying upon you to make this up to a thousand before the end of the week. A longer letter tomorrow.

Your loving Santa Claus, The Snow Castle, North Pole.

The Eighth List of Members.....

Gladys Wheatley, TUMBLE DOWN BRIDGE INN, Willenhall (4).”

Arthur Wheatley was noted for breeding fox terriers.

1939 Register

23+24, Railway Lane (5 of 6)

- [1] *Arthur Wheatley*, date of birth 3/6/1882, publican and metal polisher, married;
- [2] Mary J. Wheatley, dob 21/5/1882, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Mary J. Tarbuck, dob 12/5/1877, general servant, single;
- [4] Horace Ledsam, dob 1/4/1901, motor engineer, married;
- [5] Gladys Ledsam, dob 28/7/1905, barmaid, married;

A team from here took part in the Willenhall Darts League, South Division. [1946]

Closed

Demolished

TURKS HEAD

86, (18), Walsall Street / Church Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1933]

LICENSEES

Thomas Cartwright [1818] – [1830]

John Arnold [1833] – [1835]

John Greader [1841] – [1845]

John Carpenter [1849] – **1852**);

George Butler (**1852** – [1870]

John Benton [1869] – **1877**);

Luke Worthington (**1877**)

Taylor (**1877**)

John Benton [1881] – [1896]

William Dean [1901]

Thomas Allen [1904] – [1921]

Ernest Broomhall [1932]

NOTES

Church Street [1833], [1850]

Walsall Street [1860]

18, Walsall Street [1871]

86, Walsall Street [1881], [1891], [1901], [1904], [1908], [1932]

John Arnold = John Erhold

He was described as also being a locksmith. [1833]

1841 Census

Walsall Street

[1] *John Greader* (35), publican;

[2] Catherine Greader (35), born Staffordshire;

[3] Harriott Greader (2), born Staffordshire;

[4] Winifred Ball (20), fs, born Staffordshire;

[5] Catherine Carpenter (15), born Staffordshire:

John Greader was also the secretary of the Willenhall Gas Company. [1845]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/12/1848

“The first anniversary dinner of the Willenhall and Bilston Cricket Club took place at Mr. *Carpenter*’s, TURKS HEAD INN, Willenhall, on Thursday last; the chair was taken by Charles Oakley, Esq, surgeon, Mr. W. G. Masters, the Hon. Secretary to the Club, in the vice chair. After a substantial repast the usual loyal toasts were drunk, after which the chairman proposed the health of the Bishop of Durham, the great patron of the manly game of cricket, which was drunk with great applause. The evening passed in a very convivial manner, when the company dispersed at an early hour highly delighted with their evening’s amusements.”

1851 Census

Walsall Street

[1] *John Carpenter* (33), born Willenhall;

[2] Elizabeth Carpenter (32), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] John Carpenter (10), son, born Willenhall;

[4] Elizabeth Carpenter (6), daughter, born Willenhall;

[5] Sarah Carpenter (3), daughter, born Willenhall;

[6] Suana Carpenter (1), daughter, born Willenhall;

[7] Jane Welch (16), domestic servant, born Walsall;

[8] Jane Gee (13), domestic servant, born Darlaston:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/4/1851 - Advert

“Valuable Copyhold Property, Walsall Street, Willenhall, Staffordshire.

To be Sold by Auction, by John Mason, on Thursday next, the 17th day of April, 1851, at six o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *John Carpenter*, TURKS HEAD INN, Willenhall, in the following or one lot, as shall be agreed upon, and subject to conditions.

Lot 1. All that Messuage or Dwelling House, known as the TURKS HEAD INN, desirably situated in Walsall Street, Willenhall. The House comprises on the basement two Cellars; on the ground floor an excellent Kitchen, Parlour, Bar, and Brewhouse; on the chamber and attic floors, four Bed Rooms, a large Club Room, 30 feet by 14 feet, and Malt Room. Attached is a Stable, Shop, Pigsties, and a spacious Yard, now in the occupation of Mr. *John Carpenter*.

This Property will be found a good investment, and an excellent business is done on the Premises.

Lot 2. All that Messuage or Dwelling House adjoining Lot 1, comprising an excellent front Shop, Kitchen, Warehouse, Pantry, four Bed Rooms, Stable, and Yard, and now in the occupation of Mr. Benjamin Cross.

The respective Tenants will show the Premises; and for further particulars, apply to Mr. Treece, Solicitor, Shrewsbury; or at the Office of the Auctioneer, Willenhall, where a Plan of the Property may be seen.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/1/1852 - Advert

“TURKS HEAD INN, Willenhall.

To be Let, and entered upon immediately, the above first-rate and valuable old-established Public House, situated in the centre of Willenhall, on the main road from Wolverhampton to Walsall. Coming-in about £200.

For further particulars apply to Mr. H. W. Greaser, auctioneer, Willenhall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 9/4/1854

“William Constable says, if Thomas Jones of Bloxwich means running and not talking, he will run him 100 yards, for £15 or £20, at Lichfield, in six weeks from the first deposit. The match can be made any night next week at *George Butler's*, TURKS HEAD, Willenhall.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/9/1854

“David Gough of Willenhall is surprised at Levi Homer of Birmingham challenging a lad like him to run 300 yards, after seeing the race between him and Watson. Gough says if he will give 12 yards start, he will run him 380 yards for £10 or £15 a side.

Money ready any night next week at *Butler's* the TURKS HEAD, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/10/1854

“Mr. *George Butler*, of the TURKS HEAD, Walsall Street, Willenhall, was, on Thursday, summoned before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough, Esq, to answer the charge of the police for permitting drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house on the night of the 19th instant. Mr. Ward appeared on the part of Mr. Underhill, who had been retained for the defence, but was unavoidably absent.

Police-constable Hicks stated that at about ten o'clock on the night in question, a woman came into the Police Station and said there was a fight going on at the TURKS HEAD, in consequence of which Sub-inspector Fiddler sent the witness and two other constables to the house. When they got to the club room they found a large number of persons, most of whom were drunk, and some of them stripped and bloody. Some of the party attempted to strike the officers, and there was altogether great disorder going on in the house.

George Brindley said he was waiter at the TURKS HEAD during the wake, and there were men fighting for some time in the house.

Sub-inspector Fiddler said the landlord refused to give the names of the parties who were fighting, and ordered the police to clear out the passage. He should not have taken so much notice of the house on the occasion of the wake, if it were not a place where dog and cock fighters, and other bad characters, were harboured, and the police were being continually sent for to quell disturbances in it.

Mr. Ward argued that the landlord had used his utmost efforts to quell the disturbance, and elicited from the officer the fact that no information had ever been laid against the defendant.

Mr. Gibbons said Mr. Butler had done all he could to keep his house quiet, and that there was no more noise than usual at wake time. The Bench in vain attempted to extract from this witness a direct reply as to his knowledge of who were fighting, and what originated the disturbance.

The Magistrates decided on inflicting a fine of 10s and expenses. They also cautioned the defendant as to the future conduct of his house.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1855

“The annual licensing day for this district of the county was held at the County Magistrates' Office, Bilston Street, in this town, on Thursday last.....

Mr. *George Butler*, of the TURKS HEAD, Willenhall, applied for a renewal of his license. Subinspector Fidler said that the applicant had been fined, and that the police had been insulted on presenting themselves at his house. Mr. Underhill, who appeared in support of the application, said the offence for which applicant had been fined was of a very trifling character; and as for the alleged insulting of the police, that was a matter for magisterial adjudication at ordinary petty sessions. The license was renewed,

with a caution.”

AND

“Mr. Hayes applied for Mr. *John Carpenter*, late proprietor of the TURKS HEAD, at Willenhall, for a license to the FREE TRADE INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall. Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of the person to whom *Carpenter* had disposed of the TURKS HEAD, and produced a plan to show that the FREE TRADE INN was situated immediately opposite the back way to the TURKS HEAD, and could not fail to be greatly detrimental to the business which the applicant had disposed of to his client. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1856

“Applications for new licenses. There were fourteen applications altogether for licenses to sell spirits – all from beershop keepers – only four of which were granted by the Magistrates.

Mr. Hayes applied on behalf of *John Carpenter*, of Willenhall, who had kept a beershop, called FREE TRADE, for three or four years without any complaint having been made against him.

Mr. Underhill, who opposed the claim, said that there were six old-licensed houses within 130 yards of the FREE TRADE beer-shop.

Mr. Hayes rejoined that the other houses did not afford the necessary accommodation, which was proved by the fact that the revising barrister and the coroner always held their courts at the FREE TRADE, where greater convenience and good stabling were supplied. The certificate was signed by the Poor Law Guardians and almost every person of respectability in the place.

Mr. Underhill said that the applicant was guilty of a breach of faith in making the claim. He had formerly been the occupier of the TURKS HEAD licensed public house, which he sold to Mr. *Butler* for the sum of £200, and immediately after the transfer he commenced building this beershop, and made an application for a license. There was no necessity for any additional houses, for the CROWN was within 64 yards of FREE TRADE.

Application refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/1/1860

“A meeting of colliers, to consider the question of an advance of wages, was held at the TURKS HEAD, Walsall Street, Willenhall, on Monday evening. Upwards of a hundred persons were present; Mr. Deakin, of Portobello, presiding. The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Miller, Linney, Cooper, and others, and a deputation was appointed to wait upon the employers of the district, and ask an advance of 6d per day, and report to a future meeting.”

1861 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *George Butler* (36), publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Ann Butler* (34), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Lewis Butler* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Hannah Butler* (4), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Susan Butler* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Herbert Morris Butler* (1 month), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Mary Muldon* (18), general servant, born Chester:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/9/1861

“*George Butler*, of the TURKS HEAD, public house, Walsall-street, was summoned before the Bench for permitting disorderly conduct in his house.

Police-constables Hackett and Alcock stated that on the Wake night, Sunday, the 15th instant, they were passing along Walsall Street about twenty minutes to ten o’clock when their attention was attracted to a number of persons standing round the door of the defendant’s house, and the noise of a disturbance proceeding from inside. On entering the house they saw a number of Irishmen in the kitchen, creating quite an uproar. Two of the number had evidently been fighting, as both had their clothes torn, and one had his face covered with blood. The landlord was at that time standing quietly in the passage, and not making the slightest attempt to quell the disturbance. On the police remonstrating with him for not getting out the two Irishmen, who were the principal cause of the row and both were drunk, he told them to turn the men out themselves.

In defence Mr. Slater, who appeared for Butler, called evidence to show that the landlord had used every exertion to quell the disturbance, but without effect. Fined 5s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/10/1861

“On Friday, Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the TURKS HEAD, Walsall Road, on the body of a miner named John Marrow, who lately resided in the same street. The deceased worked in one of Messrs. Solly and Urwick’s pits, and while so engaged on Wednesday last, with three or four other men, about a ton of coal fell on him, and he was killed on the spot; his body was frightfully mangled. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1862

“County licensing meeting held on Thursday last There were no licenses suspended, but the following publicans were reprimanded for misconduct in the management of their houses during the last twelve months *George Butler*, the TURKS HEAD, Willenhall As promises of amendment were made for the future, the licenses were again renewed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/7/1863

“The members of the Royal Britannia Odd Fellows Lodge, held at the house of Mr. *George Butler*, TURKS HEAD, Willenhall, assembled at the host’s on Monday, and afterwards had a procession round the town, headed by a brass band. They attended service in the Wesleyan Chapel, where an impressive discourse was preached to them by the minister. At the conclusion of the service they returned to the TURKS HEAD, where an excellent dinner was awaiting their arrival, to which they did ample justice.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/9/1867

“Rhoda Brevitt, a girl about 18 years of age, was summoned by Letitia Dewsbury, of about the same age, for violently assaulting her. The two were at the TURKS HEAD INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall, on Tuesday, ‘keeping up the wake’. A disturbance arose about the treatment of a travelling musician, and the defendant struck the complainant on the scalp violently with a brick end, causing slight symptoms of concussion of the brain. The complainant was rendered senseless, and on her recovering consciousness fits ensued. The defendant was fined £1 and costs, or three months’ imprisonment in default.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/7/1869

“Yesterday, *John Benton*, landlord of the TURKS HEAD, Willenhall, was charged with having permitted drunkenness in his house. About half-past twelve on the night of the 16th June Sergeant Cooke went to defendant’s house, and found Police-constable Bromley there in a state of drunkenness. The defendant admitted to Cooke that Bromley had been in the house ten minutes, and that he had been supplied with liquor. Defendant was fined 40s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.

John Benton, TURKS HEAD, Willenhall, permitting drunkenness, fined 40s and costs.”

1871 Census

18, Walsall Street – TURKS HEAD

- [1] *John Benton* (35), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;
- [2] Emma Benton (37), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Sarah Faulkner (20), general servant, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/4/1871

“*John Benton*, TURKS HEAD public house, Walsall Street, Willenhall, was fined 20s and costs, for keeping open during unlicensed hours on Good Friday.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 5/3/1875

“*John Benton*, landlord of the TURKS HEAD, Walsall Street, Willenhall, was charged with allowing gaming in his house, by permitting betting on a game of bagatelle he would pay the full penalty.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 9/3/1875

“Henry Walton appeared in answer to a summons charging him with having assaulted a woman named Phoebe Ratcliffe, on the 7th of January.

Complainant stated that on the day in question she went into the TURKS HEAD, and saw the defendant there. They began talking together, and got to high words, and he then struck her in the face, and knocked her down, her arm being broken by the fall. The hearing of the case had been delayed owing to an arrangement having been made by defendant to pay her a sum of money weekly until she was able to work again, but after a month he refused to give her anything more, and she then summoned him.

The magistrates said that by agreeing to accept money compensation the complainant had placed her case out of their jurisdiction, and it would be therefore dismissed.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 12/6/1877

“*John Benton*, landlord of the TURKS HEAD, Walsall Street, Willenhall, was charged under an adjourned summons with having suffered gaming upon his licensed premises on the 25th April. Mr. Barrow appeared for the defendant.

The case has been twice adjourned since the 7th May, for the production of a material witness required by the police, and it was now stated that this witness left home in search of work shortly after the date of the alleged offence, and his whereabouts had not since been ascertained.

A man, named James Wilkes, of New Street, Portobello, said that on the 25th April last he saw tossing in defendant’s house, but he could not say whether the tossing was for money or money’s worth. This being the only witness called by the police, Mr. Barrow submitted that there was nothing for his client to answer, and the magistrates at once dismissed the summons.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1878

“The Bench, on the opposition of Inspector M’Crea, refused to transfer the licence of a beerhouse at Doctor’s Piece, Willenhall, to Mr. *Taylor*, of Willenhall, tenant to August last of the TURKS HEAD, he having been three times convicted of offences against the Licensing Acts.”

1881 Census

86, Walsall Street – TURKS HEAD INN

- [1] *John Benton* (44), publican, born Darlaston;
- [2] *Emma Benton* (46), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Ann M. Aston* (23), general servant, born Willenhall:

Evening Express 28/7/1881

“The annual meeting of the Benevolent Loyal Britons Lodge No.1, held at the TURKS HEAD, Willenhall, took place on Monday last, where several gentlemen were present in honour of the society having completed the 15th year of existence. After doing justice to a good dinner, Mr. Henry Hall was voted to the chair, and Mr. John Clark to the vice chair.

The annual report which was read, showed that the present number of members is 224, the amount paid in the year for sick and death allowances £262 9s, amount saved in the same period £8 0s 10½d, total accumulated funds (for the most part invested on mortgage) £2,387 0s 8½d. The Secretary also presented a report calling attention to the good work the club had done in the past, and inviting the well to do classes of the town and neighbourhood to assist them by becoming honorary members, and the working classes to enroll themselves amongst the members, with a view to still further increasing stability and usefulness of the society. Since its commencement £4,701 7s have been paid to members, and £940 to the relatives of deceased members. The valuation report showed the society to be in as good and sound position as any other society in the town and neighbourhood. Messrs. Hall, Clark, G. Baker, and J. T. Hartill briefly addressed the members.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/6/1883

“*John Benton*, landlord of the TURKS HEAD, Walsall Street, Willenhall, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly in the street on Thursday. He was fined 10s and costs.”

1891 Census

86, Walsall Street

- [1] *John Benton* (55), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;
- [2] *Miriam Benton* (28), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Sarah J. Price* (19), domestic servant, born Heath Town:

1901 Census

86, Walsall Street

- [1] *William Dean* (31), publican, born Cannock;
- [2] *Kate Dean* (25), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *William Dean* (3), son, born West Bromwich:

Black Country Bugle

Letter from R. Worthington, Willenhall

“.....Mr. *Tom Allen*, who brewed his own beer at a pub called the TURKS HEAD, practically right opposite the fairground.”

Advert (1911)

“Home brewed ales. Wines, spirits etc. of the finest quality. Good Stabling.”

1911 Census

Walsall Street

- [1] *Thomas Allen* (49), butcher and licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Nancy Allen* (47), wife, married 23 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Lewis Allen* (16), son, assists in butchers' business, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Lily Allen* (9), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Herbert Allen* (6), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Eliza Lister* (30), domestic servant, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Kate Nixon* (20), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Thomas Allen was also a butcher of 35, Market Place and 2, Cross Street. [1912]

He was described as a butcher of 35, Market Place. [1916]

Thomas Allen – see also OLD OAK.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 29/11/1924

“At a meeting of the Willenhall Bowling League, held at the TURKS HEAD HOTEL, on Wednesday evening, Councillor George H. Kidson, in the chair, prizes to the value of nearly £30 were distributed. The principal winners were the Greyhound Club, March End, which secured the handsome shield. The second prize was won by the Star Foundry, Birmingham Street, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/4/1933

“Six applications for confirmation of provisional licences and removal orders were considered at a meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Confirmation Committee held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Saturday.....

Confirmation of the removal of the full licence of the TURKS HEAD, Willenhall, to premises known as the TALBOT INN, Willenhall, which at present has a six days' full licence, was sought by Mr. W. C. Boyd Forsyth (Messrs. Fowler, Langley, and Wright), who appeared for Nellie Pleydell.

Mr. Forsyth explained that the licence of the TURKS HEAD would be surrendered. Messrs. W. Butler & Co., of Wolverhampton, had owned the TALBOT INN for less than a year, and it appeared that the restriction of a six days' licence was imposed more than 30 years ago. They thought it was unfair that they should still be saddled with that restriction, and accordingly had applied for a seven days' licence. There was no opposition to the application.

The removal order was confirmed.”

The license was transferred to the TALBOT, Market Place, on 8th April 1933.

UNITED KINGDOM

14, Bloxwich Road (South), (Davies Lane), Lane Head, Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Taylor Lees [1841] – [1842]

James Fisher [1845] – [1873]

Stephen Fisher [1874] – [1892]

Thomas D Squire [1896] – [1908]

Horace John Elwell [1911] – [1912]

George Deans [1916]

Frederick Tuckley [1921]

Percy Tuckley [1932] – [1940]

NOTES

Lane Head [1841], [1860], [1861], [1881]

Davies Lane [1901]

KINGDOM [1881]

1841 Census

Lane Head

[1] *Thomas Taylor Lees* (25), carpenter, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Eleanor Lees* (23), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Eleanor Lees* (7), born Staffordshire;

[4] *William Lees* (6), born Staffordshire;

[5] *Mary Lees* (4), born Staffordshire;

[6] *Sarah Lees* (3), born Staffordshire;

[7] *Thomas Taylor Lees* (1), born Staffordshire;

[8] *Edward Badger* (15), apprentice, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/4/1841 - Advert

“Desirable Investment, Lane Head, Willenhall.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Richard Corbett, on Tuesday, the 4th day of May, at six o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *T. T. Lees*, known by the name of the UNITED KINGDOM, situate at Lane Head, in the township of Willenhall, and county of Stafford, in one or more lot or lots, to be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions then to be produced.

All that said Messuage, Tenement, or Public-House, called the UNITED KINGDOM, with the Brewhouse, Outbuildings, Garden, and appurtenances thereto, situate at Lane Head aforesaid, and now in the occupation of the said *T. T. Lees*.

Also all those four other Messuages or Tenements, with the Outbuildings, Gardens, and appurtenances thereto belonging, situate and adjoining the said public-house, and now in the several occupations of Widow Knight, William Matthews, John Reynolds, and

James Pearson.

And also all that piece of Building Land, situate and adjoining the above described property, having a frontage of upwards of forty yards to the road leading towards Bloxwich on the one side, and the Wyrley and Essington Canal on the other side, and now occupied as a wharf and timber yard.

The said premises (which are Copyhold, held of the Manor of Stowheath) will be shown by the respective tenants; and further particulars may be known and a plan seen, on application to the Auctioneer, Bilston; Messrs. Timmis and Blood, or Messrs. Manby and Hawkesford, Wolverhampton.

£500 part of the purchase money may remain on security of the premises.”

James Fisher was also an iron hurdle maker and iron boat builder. [1845]

He was described as being an iron boat builder. [1849]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/1/1851

“On Friday last an adjourned inquest was held at the UNITED KINGDOM public house, Lane Head, in the parish of Wolverhampton, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Joseph Tuckley, thirty-two years of age, who on the previous Saturday morning, whilst standing with his back close to the mouth of a coalpit at Woodfarm colliery, in the parish of Bentley, attending to a fire that he had just made, suddenly fell backward into the pit. He was shortly afterwards brought up the pit quite dead, with his right arm and right thigh dreadfully fractured, and bad bruises upon his body. It appearing that no one on the pit bank had caused the deceased to fall, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Lane Head

- [1] *James Fisher* (48), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Urania Fisher* (45), wife, born Bushbury;
- [3] *Ann Fisher* (21), daughter, house servant, born Bushbury;
- [4] *George Fisher* (19), son, blacksmith, born Bushbury;
- [5] *Joseph Fisher* (14), son, blacksmith, born Bentley;
- [6] *Hannah Fisher* (12), daughter, born Bentley;
- [7] *Rebecca Fisher* (10), daughter, scholar, born Bentley;
- [8] *Phoebe Fisher* (4), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Stephen Fisher* (2), son, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/9/1851

“On Monday last, an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq., at the sign of the UNITED KINGDOM, Lane Head, on the body of Sarah Appleby, a married woman, about twenty-eight years of age. It appeared from the evidence of Thomas Humphreson, who lodged in the house of the deceased at Bentley Hay, and of Mary Faulkner, a neighbour, that she was subject to fits. On Friday last, between one and two o'clock in the day, the deceased was found by Humphreson in a pit of water found in an open work near to Mr. Moore's railroad. He got her out, but she immediately expired. An empty bucket was seen by the side of the pit, to which the deceased had been accustomed to go for water. It is supposed she fell into the water while in a fit. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

1861 Census

Lane Head – Public House

- [1] *James Fisher* (58), victualler, born Stafford;
- [2] ___ unai? *Fisher* (56), wife, born Cannock;
- [3] *Joseph Fisher* (24), son, boiler maker, born Bentley;
- [4] *Martha Fisher* (14), daughter, born Bentley;
- [5] *Stephen Fisher* (11), son, scholar, born Bentley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/11/1861

“On Friday last, at the UNITED KINGDOM INN, Lane Head, an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq., coroner, on the body of Elizabeth Williams, aged about six years, daughter of a collier, living at Bentley Wood, whose death had taken place from injuries caused by her clothes taking fire at her father's house on the previous Friday. It appeared that the deceased had been left in the house with two other children while her mother was absent in taking an elder daughter's breakfast, and that the deceased's clothes became ignited as she was playing with the fire. She was dreadfully burnt on her right side and back. Mrs. Williams, her mother, said that she sent for Mr. Harthill, surgeon, but he would not attend. She then went to Mr. Somerville, surgeon, Bloxwich, and that gentleman and his assistant attended and continued to render their services till the deceased's death, which occurred on Wednesday. The Jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1863

“At a special meeting of the Magistrates, a number of tradesmen of the Willenhall township were summoned by Mr. Tollet, the inspector of weights and measures for district C, or South Staffordshire, for having in their possession short weights and measures, of various descriptions. The cases were the result of a visit made to the various shops and public houses, on the 15th of February last.....

Jas. Fisher, UNITED KINGDOM public house, Lane Head, short measures, fined 35s and costs, in all 49s.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/3/1867

“On Saturday last an inquest was held at the UNITED KINGDOM INN, Lane Head, before T. M. Phillips, Esq., Deputy Coroner, on the body of Ezekiel Williams, a boy, 13 years of age, who lost his life from an explosion of fire-damp in an ironstone pit. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased has been for some time engaged at the Roughwood Colliery, Bentley, belonging to the Messrs. Perry. On the 5th instant he incautiously strayed into a part of the pit which was not in work, with a naked candle in his hand, notwithstanding repeated cautions from some of the workmen. The consequence was that an explosion of the fire-damp took place, and he was severely injured. On being conveyed home, Messrs. Hartill, the colliery surgeons, attended him, but he died on the 21st instant. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned; but the Coroner, in recording it, alluded to the doggy’s duties, and said from the evidence before him the fence separating the unworked portion from the other part of the pit named must have been inefficient.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/5/1868

“An inquest was held on Monday, at the UNITED KINGDOM INN, Lane Head, upon the body of a boy about five years old, named John Jeffries. On the 6th of March last the deceased, whilst alone in his parent’s house, fell into a pan of hot water. He was very severely scalded about the arms and other portions of the body. Mr. T. S. Hartill was called in immediately after the accident, and attended the unfortunate little fellow until death, which took place on Thursday last. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1871 Census

7, Lane Head

- [1] *James Fisher* (68), inn keeper, born Tipton;
- [2] *Urania Fisher* (65), wife, born Essington;
- [3] *Stephen Fisher* (21), son, blacksmith, born Lane Head;
- [4] *Martha Fisher* (24), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Hannah Fisher* (6), granddaughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 15/3/1877 - Advert

“Found, liver and white coloured Spaniel Dog.
Apply, *S. Fisher*, UNITED KINGDOM INN, Short Heath, near Willenhall.”

1881 Census

Lane Head – KINGDOM INN

- [1] *Stephen Fisher* (32), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Phoebe Fisher* (26), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *James Fisher* (78), widower, father, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary A. Smith* (17), general domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

UNITED KINGDOM

- [1] *Stephen Fisher* (48), licensed victualler and grocer, born Short Heath;
- [2] *Phobe Fisher* (36), wife, grocer, born Short Heath;
- [3] *Sarah Thornton* (24), domestic servant, born Bilston:

1901 Census

Davies Lane – UNITED KINGDOM INN

- [1] *Thomas D. Squire* (48), licensed victualler, born Short Heath;
- [2] *Agnes Squire* (50), wife, born Short Heath;
- [3] *Eva Squire* (23), daughter, born Short Heath;
- [4] *Alma A. Squire* (17), daughter, born Short Heath;
- [5] *Stephen D. Squire* (14), son, born Short Heath;
- [6] *Alfred O. Squire* (9), son, born Short Heath;
- [7] *Ida A. Squire* (6), daughter, born Short Heath:

1911 Census

Lane Head – UNITED KINGDOM INN

- [1] *Horace John Elwell* (38), publican, licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Florence Mary Elwell* (38), wife, married 17 years, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Horace Victor Elwell* (5 months), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Percyval Vermam Elwell* (15), son, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Leslie George Elwell* (14), son, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Horace Victor Elwell* (5), son, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *Catherine Mary Elwell* (6), daughter, born Pleck, Walsall;

[8] Mary Jones (18), domestic servant:
[I am not sure why there are two Horace Victors.]

1939 Register

14, Bloxwich Road

[1] *Percy E. Tuckley*, date of birth 7/6/1884, miner, heavy work, married;

[2] May Tuckley, dob 12/6/1884, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Martha Ellen (Tuckley) Shepherd, dob 16/4/1920, factory hand, screwer, single;

[4] Alice M. (Tuckley) Castle, dob 8/12/1922, civil servant, probationers, single:

[2016]

VINE

Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Gough [1869]

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.

John Gough, VINE INN, Portobello, 10s and costs.”

WAGGON AND HORSES

29, Walsall Road, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Wright [] – **1873**);

Edmund Wright* (**1873** – []

Edwin Wright* [1881]

John Conway [1891]

John Albert Woolley [1910]

NOTES

*possibly the same person

1881 Census

29, Walsall Road – WAGGON AND HORSES

[1] *Edwin Wright* (36), widower, die sinker and publican, born Willenhall;

[2] Edwin Wright (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

- [3] Frank Wright (11), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Arthur Wright (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Betsy J. Wright (33), sister, unmarried, house keeper, born Willenhall;
- [6] James T. Wright (26), brother, unmarried, die sinker, born Willenhall;
- [7] Hannah Howdle (19), general servant, born Willenhall:

Edwin Wright – see also TIGER.

1891 Census

Walsall Road – WAGGON AND HORSES INN

- [1] *John Conway* (63), publican, born Handsacre, Staffordshire;
- [2] Martha Conway (60), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Ann Burns (23), niece, born Willenhall:

John Conway – check OLD CROWN.

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1910

“Wolverhampton annual licensing sessions public houses were too numerous in Willenhall district.

Most of the licences were renewed, but several were deferred until the adjourned sessions.

The Chairman stated that at the adjourned sessions they would consider the question of referring for compensation WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Walsall Road, Willenhall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/3/1910

“Adjourned licensing sessions for the Seisdon division of the county.....

The magistrates considered objections to the renewal of four licenses at Willenhall on the ground of redundancy....

Mr. C. N. Wright, on behalf of the owner of the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Walsall Road, Willenhall, objected to it being referred for closing. It did a small trade owing to competing houses giving the long pull measure. It was referred for compensation, and the magistrates requested the police to bring before them in future any cases of over measure.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/7/1910

“On Friday the principal meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shirehall, Stafford

Licenses refused.....

WAGGON AND HORSES, Willenhall, ante-1869 beerhouse.”

Lichfield Mercury 6/1/1911

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee stated that at the principal meeting the committee refused to renew 27 licenses. At the supplemental meetings the committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard, upon oath, evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee considered that the amounts of compensation agreed upon were satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.....

WAGGON AND HORSES, Willenhall, beerhouse ante 1869, £450.”

WAGGON AND HORSES

49, Wednesfield Road, (53, Little London), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Atkinsons Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Nicholls [1849] – [1874]

Ann Hanna Nicholls [] – 1877);

John Henry Fortnum (1877 – [1896]

William Griffiths [1901] – [1904]

Diana Griffiths [1908]

Thomas Henry Marston [1911] – [1942]

Mrs. Harriet Marston [1947]

NOTES

53, Little London [1871]

George Nicholls = George Nichols

George Nicholls was also a farmer. [1851]

1851 Census

Little London

- [1] *George Nicholls* (33), born Willenhall;
- [2] Litcha Nicholls (28), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Fany Nicholls (5), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] William Nicholls (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Ann Nicholls (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Ann Read (20), sister in law, unmarried, born Willenhall;
- [7] Fanny Edmonds (18), niece, born Wrexham;
- [8] Jane Ady (14), servant, born Wednesfield:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/7/1858

“On Monday and yesterday (Tuesday), the members of the following societies partook of their annual feasts at the inns at Willenhall or Portobello, where they respectively hold their meetings, namely the Mutual Relief Society, at the WAGGON AND HORSES, Little London.”

1861 Census

Wednesfield Road

- [1] *George Nicholls* (43), innkeeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] Letitia H. Nicholls (38), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Fanny Nicholls (15), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] James W. R. Nicholls (12), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Ann Nicholls (11), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Prudence Nicholls (9), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] George H. L. Nicholls (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] John Nicholls (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [9] Joseph Nicholls (9 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [10] Hannah North (19), house servant, born Wednesfield:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1863

“At a special meeting of the Magistrates, a number of tradesmen of the Willenhall township were summoned by Mr. Tollet, the inspector of weights and measures for district C, or South Staffordshire, for having in their possession short weights and measures, of various descriptions. The cases were the result of a visit made to the various shops and public houses, on the 15th of February last.....

Geo. Nicholls, WAGGON AND HORSES public house, Little London, short measures, 30s and costs, in all 48s.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/9/1866

“At the Police Court, on Monday, two young men, named Levi Jones and Thomas Bird, were charged with an assault and attempted highway robbery on Ann Marsen. The prosecutrix stated that she lived at Wednesfield, and that on Saturday night last, at about a quarter to nine, she left her home to go to Dr. Hartill’s, in Walsall Road, Willenhall, for some medicine. After she left there she went up town to buy some articles, and met two of her neighbours who asked her to wait for them, so that they might all go home together. She accordingly waits some time in the street, but finding they did not come, she called in at the WAGGON AND HORSES public house. Her neighbours not having arrived she left there at about twenty minutes past ten, and proceeded on her way home, when the two prisoners who left the public house at the same time she did, followed her. She heard them conversing together, and Jones afterwards came up to her and after asking her what she’d got with her, expressed his determination to have whatever she had. She replied that she was a poor woman; had got nothing to give them, and asked to be allowed to pass on unmolested, but the prisoner Jones (Bird being on the other side of the road) still persisted, and pushed her about a great deal. She, however, took advantage of the prisoner’s being a little way from her at one time, and ran away, screaming for help, and escaped back to the public house she had shortly before left. Arrived there, she apprised the persons congregated in the house of the circumstances and asked them to fetch a policeman, which was accordingly done, and the prisoners were taken into custody at about twelve o’clock the same night. The Magistrates said they did not consider the charge of highway robbery proved; but an assault had been clearly committed, and they should fine Jones 30s and costs, or a months’ imprisonment; and Bird, who was not really the offender, but acting in concert with the other, would be fined £1 and costs, or three weeks’ hard labour.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/11/1868

“At the Police Court, on Monday, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and R. D. Gough Esq., *George Nicholls*, landlord of the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Little London, was summoned by Inspector Gasson for selling six quarts of ale during prohibited hours on Sunday, the 25th of October. Police-constable Shaw stated that on the morning of that day, between eight and nine o'clock, his attention was drawn to the defendant's house by seeing a man go to the back door. About five minutes afterwards, witness saw the defendant bring out a large bottle and give it to the man, and he walked away with it. Witness followed the man, and found that the bottle he was carrying contained ale.

The defendant admitted having served the man with the liquor, but said he took no money for it. It was allowance-drink, and a note was brought to him; but he should have refused to serve it had he not known that the men had been working in the wet, repairing an old shaft. It could not, he said, be inferred that he sold the liquor for gain, as it would have been just the same to him had he refused to give the men the ale until the next day. A fine of 2s 6d and costs was imposed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates' office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.

George Nicholls, WAGON AND HORSES, Spring Bank, fined 2s 6d and costs for selling during prohibited hours.”

1871 Census

53, Little London

- [1] *George Nicholls* (54), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Letitia Nicholls (49), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Ann Nicholls (21), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Prudence L. Nicholls (19), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Florence L. Nicholls (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] Lydia North (16), general servant, born Wednesfield:

John Henry Fortnum = John Henry Fortnam

John Henry Fortnam married Prudence Leah *Nicholls* in the 3rd quarter of 1873.

Birmingham Daily Post 19/10/1877

“The county magistrates transferred the licenses of the following alehouses on Tuesday.

WAGON AND HORSES, Little London, Willenhall, to *J. H. Fortnam* from *Ann Hanna*, formerly *Nichols*.”

Evening Express 3/1/1881

“Lydia Lowbridge, of New Invention, was charged under remand with having stolen a gold brooch and a pair of earrings, altogether of the value of £6, the property of *John Henry Fortnam*, her employer, landlord of the WAGGON AND HORSES, Little London; and she was further charged with stealing a pocket handkerchief, the property of Florence Letitia Nicholls, sister-in-law of Mr. *Fortnam*.

It will be remembered that the jewellery was missed on the 16th December, and was afterwards produced by the accused, who said she found it in the bed where she and her fellow servant slept. When her box was searched the pocket handkerchief was found there.

The Bench thought there was not sufficient evidence to convict the accused on either charge, although there was a certain amount of suspicion relative to the handkerchief, which led them to warn her strongly as to her future conduct. She was accordingly discharged.

Mr. Cresswell prosecuted, and Mr. R. Smith defended the accused.”

Evening Express 22/1/1881 - Advert

“Wanted, good General Servant for public house; also Nurse Girl; good character required from last situation.

Apply WAGGON AND HORSES, Little London, Willenhall.”

1881 Census

49, Wednesfield Road

- [1] *John Henry Fortnam* (30), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Prudence Leah Fortnam (29), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Elizabeth G. Fortnam (6), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] Walter J. Fortnam (4), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Harry N. Fortnam (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] Horace Fortnam (9 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] Florence L. Nicholes (19), sister in law, born Willenhall;
- [8] Hannah Hancox (25), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [9] Harriet Giles (17), nurse, born Darlaston:

Evening Express 12/4/1881

“This morning, H. Brevitt, Esq, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Wednesfield Road, Willenhall, on the body of Joseph Banks (38), a padlocksmith, late of Little London, and who committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor on Saturday morning last.

The deceased had been in low spirits for some time past through ill health. His brother left him in bed alive and apparently well at half past six o'clock on Saturday morning last. At about ten o'clock a sister of the deceased found him in bed with his throat cut; she raised an alarm, and Mrs. Dunn, a neighbour, went into the house to the deceased. He was in bed, with his head turned aside, and on the side of the neck was a deep cut, from which blood was flowing. She spoke to him, but he made no reply. He was not dead at the time, but he died soon afterwards. By the side of the bed, was a chamber utensil which contained a great deal of blood, and about two quarts of blood lay on the floor. On a chair by the side of the bed was a razor covered with blood, and both his hands were similarly smeared.

It was given in evidence that members of the deceased's family on his father's side had suffered from insanity.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased Committed Suicide while in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

Evening Express 28/7/1881 - Advert

“Wanted, a clean, industrious Servant, about 20, for a public house; good character required from last place. WAGGON AND HORSES, Little London, Willenhall.”

Evening Star 2/1/1882

“Frederick Bennett of Spring Bank, secretary, and on behalf of the Mutual Relief Society held at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Little London, Willenhall, was summoned by Emanuel Baker, lock manufacturer, of Wood Street, Willenhall, for neglecting to pay the sum of £1 4s, being six weeks sick pay to November 5th 1881.

Mr. Clark, of Willenhall, appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Willcock, of Wolverhampton, for the defendant.

The complainant had been a member of the society for many years, and the amount sought to be recovered was six weeks sick pay at 4s a week – half allowance. This money was paid under the original rules registered in 1879. Complainant had been receiving this half allowance for a considerable time, but in September last he received a notice purporting to be signed by the secretary, in which it was stated that after September 6th 1881 the full pay would be reduced to 5s and the half pay to be 2s 6d a week. The rule had been altered, but Mr. Clark submitted that it was not in accordance with the rules of the society. To alter the rules it was necessary that a meeting should be called for that special purpose, but in this case only a few of the members were present. Mr. Willcock said with regard to the manner in which this meeting was summoned, the Bench could not go into that now. Mr. Clark had under the Act got the power, if the registrar had registered which in themselves were good, but which had not been passed in accordance with rules of the society to apply for the registrar to cancel the registry. The Bench were bound to recognize a rule duly certified.

Mr. Clark contended that an alteration could not affect a member who was in receipt of such pay. In reply Mr. Willcock stated that according to the Act a new rule was binding in all.

A point of law having arisen and resolved to adjourn for a fortnight.”

[At the adjournment an order was made for payment.]

1891 Census

49, Wednesfield Road

- [1] *John H. Fortnum* (39), butcher and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Prudence Leah Fortnum* (38), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Elizabeth G. Fortnum* (16), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Walter J. Fortnum* (13), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Harry N. Fortnum* (12), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Horace Fortnum* (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Charlie Fortnum* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Ernest Fortnum* (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Rupert Fortnum* (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [10] *Oswald Fortnum* (1), son, born Willenhall;
- [11] *Harriet Fortnum* (19), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

John Henry Fortnum was also a butcher of 19, Temple Bar. [1892]

1901 Census

Wednesfield Road – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *William Griffiths* (62), licensed victualler, born Middleton, Shropshire;
- [2] *Dinah Griffiths* (58), wife, born Brewood, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Mary Tarbuck* (22), general servant, born New Invention:

1911 Census

49, Wednesfield Road – WAGGON AND HORSES INN

- [1] *Thomas Henry Marston* (46), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

- [2] Harriett Marston (39), wife, married 13 years;
- [3] Reginald H. Marston (12), son;
- [4] Dorothy Thalamar Marston (11), daughter;
- [5] Madeline Vera Marston (8), daughter;
- [6] Alice Winifred Marston (6), daughter;
- [7] Ida Kathleen Marston (1), daughter:

1939 Register

Wednesfield Road – WAGGON AND HORSES INN

- [1] *Thomas H. Marston*, date of birth 24/5/1869, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] Harriet Marston, dob 24/4/1871, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Reginald H. Marston, dob 29/4/1898, die sinker, engineer, single;
- [4] Ida Kathleen Marston, dob 20/3/1910, secretary, manufacturer, single;
- [5] Marita M. Marston, dob 29/3/1913, tracer, engineer, single:

1942 Probate

“*Thomas Harry Marston*, of the WAGGON AND HORSES, Wednesfield Road, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 14 July 1942. Administration Birmingham 9 September to Harriet Marston, widow. Effects £1,394 3s.”

1948 Probate

“*Harriet Marston*, of the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Wednesfield Road, Willenhall, Staffordshire, died 2 June 1947. Administration Birmingham 7 April to Madeline Vera Harrison (wife of Laurence Harrison). Effects £755 1s.”

It closed in the mid 1970s. (?)

WALSALL HOUSE

Walsall Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1911]

WATERGLADE

Bilston Street, (2, Waterglade), (Bilston Road), Rose Hill, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Richard Bradbury [1833] – **1852**);
Hannah Bate (**1852** – []
William Allen [1851] ?
Thomas Ward [1860] – **1865**);
Mrs. Catherine Ward (**1865** – [1870]
Isaac Pitt [1871]
John Wakelam* [1872] – [1873]
John Walter Wakelam* [1874]

John Wakelam* [1881]
John Rowledge [1891] – [1901]
Mrs. Ellen Rowledge [1904]
Alfred Rowledge [1908]
John Alexander Hill [1911]
Mrs. Annie Eaton [1912]
Samuel Taylor [1916] – [1921]
Mrs. Susan Taylor [1932]
Mrs. Martha Millington []
Harry Ford [] – 21 years

NOTES

Waterglade [1860]
2, Waterglade [1892], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1932]
Bilston Street

GLADE [1874]

Richard Bradbury, beer retailer, Waterglade. [1833], [1849], [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/5/1848

“Yesterday (Tuesday) an inquest was held at the WATER GLADE INN, Willenhall, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Thomas William Miles, two years and a half old (son of Thomas Miles, leather dresser), who was found drowned on Sunday evening last, in an unfenced pond of water, about five feet deep, which is used by his father as a water pit for cleaning skins. The little boy had been seen by a neighbour in the course of the afternoon go across the road alone, and into the yard in which the pond is situated, and was missed some time afterwards. The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned.”

1851 Census

Waterglade

- [1] *Richard Bradbury* (69), widower, licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] Catherine Carpenter (24), servant, born Willenhall;
- [3] Mariah Turner (20), servant, born Willenhall:

Richard Bradbury died in 1852.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/12/1852

“At a special sessions, held by H. Hill, J. Tarratt, and W. Tarratt Esqs. and Capt. Thorneycroft, at the Justice’s Room, in Bilston Street, on Monday last, the following transfers of licenses took place from the executors of the late *Richard Bradbury*, of the WATER GLADE, Willenhall, to *Hannah Bate*.....”

1861 Census

WATERGLADE

- [1] *Thomas Ward* (44), victualler, born Bradley;
- [2] *Catherine Ward* (34), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Frederick J. Ward (8), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] William T. Ward (6), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Francis G. Ward (5), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] Edward Ward (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [7] Charles H. Ward (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [8] James L. Ward (6 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [9] Caroline Lewis (19), servant, born Shropshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/7/1861

“On Wednesday an inquest was held at the WATERGLADE, before Mr. Phillips, deputy coroner, on the body of a married woman, named Ann Whittingham, who was killed on Sunday evening by falling down a pit in the New Priestfield Colliery. The deceased was only 22 years of age, and at the time of the accident was in the company of Martha, James, and Betty Price. She was in high spirits, and when the latter inquired the way to Bilston, she ran to the top of the bank on which the pit mouth was situated, and pointed out the route that was to be taken. Having done so, she shouted down the pit. As she did so, the chain upon which she leaned, and which protected it, gave way, and she fell down the pit. Her husband witnessed the accident at a distance. In his evidence he said that he had made inquiries of the banksman who put up the chain, and was satisfied the he had properly secured the chain. The pit was a working pit, and this chain was the only protection to it. The husband said that the chain must have been tampered with after the banksman left it, otherwise it would not have become unfastened so soon as it did. The Jury returned a

verdict of Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/4/1865 - Deaths

“On the 10th instant, at the WATERGLADE INN, Willenhall, Mr. *Thomas Ward*, in his 49th year.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/7/1865

“At the County Police Court, in this town, on Monday, the following applications for the transfer of public house licenses were granted.....

The WATER GLADE, Willenhall, from *Thomas Ward* (deceased), to his widow, *Catherine Ward*.”

Catherine Ward married *Isaac Pitt* on 13th February 1868.

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/7/1869 - Advert

“Mining, Building and Accommodation Land, Houses, Taverns, &c. (Freehold and Copyhold), in Willenhall (first portion of the Estates of Thomas Hincks Esq., deceased), by direction of the Vice-Chancellor, Sir John Stuart, under the Order dated the 31st of July, 1868, in *Turton v Barber*.

Mr. Henry Weirland Greaser will Sell, at the ROYAL GEORGE, in Willenhall, on Friday, September 17, 1869, at five o'clock precisely.....

The said lots comprise the KING CHARLES IN THE OAK TREE Public-house.....

17 Houses and Shops (including the WATER GLADE INN and the ROYAL GEORGE INN, at Water Glade).....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/10/1870

“County Courts. Wolverhampton. Monday. Before A. M. Skinner, Esq., Q.C., Judge.

Isaac Pitt, landlord of the WATERGLADE INN, and Joseph Everitt, of Alma Street, Willenhall, appeared at the suit of Mr. George, tailor, of Great Bridge, who brought his action to recover £2 3s for a velvet suit of clothes, to enable Everitt the better to impersonate ‘Little John’ among the Ancient Order of Foresters. Everitt’s defence was that *Pitt* six years ago, in admiration of Everitt’s ‘Little John’ in a Foresters’ procession, but in pity for his dress, ordered the suit for him, on condition that he took part in certain masquerades in which *Pitt* indulged, and which Everitt said *Pitt* described to him as follows: He said: On a certain occasion me and Mr. Marston went down to Brewood and represented ourselves as Parliament men on election business – (laughter) – and got very well treated. We are going to Wheaton Aston, and we shall have a carriage and four, and you must go with us in this suit of clothes as our livery servant, and address me as ‘My Lord’. (Renewed laughter.) The order, it appeared, was given at the SHAKESPEARE INN, where a Court was held, and *Pitt* admitted he was present on the occasion. He denied, however, that he ever gave the order. Everitt asked him to use his influence as a member of the ‘Court’ to induce the ‘Court’ to pay for the suit. The ‘Court’, however, declined to do so.

This defence being supported by the evidence of Mr. Marston, judgment was given against Everitt only.”

1871 Census

Water Glade

- [1] *Isaac Pitt* (61), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Catherine Pitt* (45), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Catherine L. Pitt (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] Edward J. Ward (13), step-son, born Willenhall;
- [5] Charles H. Ward (12), step-son, born Willenhall;
- [6] James C. Ward (10), step-son, born Willenhall;
- [7] Thomas J. Ward (8), step-son, born Willenhall;
- [8] Richard W. Ward (7), step-son, born Willenhall;
- [9] Louisa Smith (14), domestic servant, born Wednesfield:

* possibly the same person

Evening Express 20/1/1881

“W. H. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at noon today, at the WATERGLADE INN, Willenhall, on the body of Edward Jones (63), of Bescot, who, as already reported, was killed on the London and North-Western Railway at Willenhall on Tuesday.

The deceased was a swag watchman in the employ of the railway company, and from the evidence of William Croxton, a foreman platelayer, of Great Bridge, it appeared that he and the deceased were on duty on Tuesday morning, and were walking together in the six foot of the railway near the Willenhall cutting. The gale was blowing with great fierceness at the time, and as the deceased stepped into the four foot – as if he were going to a box on the other side of the line, which he had occasionally to enter – a passenger train came up, knocked him down, and ran over him. His head was severed from his body, and it rolled several feet away from where the trunk lay.

The engine driver also gave evidence, and stated that he saw the deceased holding his hat on and bending to the wind when he walked into the four foot, and it was apparent that he did not hear the train coming along. Witness sounded his whistle, but the train was almost upon the man at the time, so that even if he heard it he would not have time to step back again.

No blame was attached to anyone, and a verdict was returned that the man was Accidentally Killed.

The friends of the deceased were present to watch the proceedings.”

1881 Census

2, Water Glade –WATER GLADE public house

- [1] *John Wakelam* (68), licensed victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Miranda Wakelam* (65), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Fanny Wakelam* (28), daughter, domestic helper, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Eliza Wakelam* (25), daughter, domestic helper, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Samson Wakelam* (23), son, carpenter and joiner, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Clara Wakelam* (20), daughter, dress maker, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Harry Wakelam* (11), grandson, scholar, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

Bilston Road – WATERGLADE INN

- [1] *John Rowledge* (52), decorator, born Weedon Bank, Northamptonshire;
- [2] *Ellen Rowledge* (51), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Florence Rowledge* (22), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Joseph Rowledge* (19), son, joiner, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Clara Rowledge* (14), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Alfred Rowledge* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Fanny Wakelam* (58), visitor, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

WATERGLADE

- [1] *John Rowledge* (62), licensed victualler, born Weedon, Northamptonshire;
- [2] *Ellen Rowledge* (61), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Florence Barnett* (33), daughter, married, housemaid, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Clara Rowledge* (23), daughter, barmaid, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Alfred Rowledge* (19), son, plumber, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Charles Phillips* (19), grandson, carpenter, born Willenhall:

Walsall Advertiser 20/3/1909

“The members of the Willenhall Prize Band held their annual dinner on Wednesday evening, in the band room, at the WATER-GLADE INN. Councillor W. Henshaw (president) occupied the chair, and in submitting the toast of ‘Success to the Band’ congratulated the members upon carrying off the second prize at Birmingham, on March 6th, out of the nineteen bands competing, and Mr. George Bailey for obtaining the medal as the best euphonium soloist. In responding, Mr. James Roberts said that last year was the most successful the band had ever had. Their engagements numbered sixty, and they realised something like £300. This was a record for any band in the town excepting the Coronation year. He had already booked ten engagements for the ensuing season.

Mr. C. Paton (a visitor from London) gave a humorous speech, and Mr. A. W. Dawes subsequently proposed the health of the chairman. During the evening Messrs. G. Roberts and S. Picken contributed a number of songs, and Messrs. Alderwick and Pedley, the local Zancigs, gave an interesting and puzzling exhibition of second sight.”

1911 Census

Bilston Road – WATERGLADE

- [1] *John Alexander Hill* (47), brewer and gardener, public house, born Willenhall;
 - [2] *Mary Hill* (47), wife, married 20 years, bridle stitcher, born Dudley;
 - [3] *Gladys Catherine Hill* (14), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
 - [4] *Clara Hill* (8), daughter, school, born Willenhall:
- [It appears that daughter Gwendoline May had died recently, aged 11.]

John Alexander Hill see also BULLS HEAD.

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/1/1912

“On Wednesday, at the Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Cope, Mrs *Annie Eaton*, of the WATERGLADE INN, Willenhall, attended for examination. Her liabilities amounted to £700. It appeared that before she was married to her present husband she made the acquaintance of a Mr. Christie, of New York. He lent her £200, and gave her a gold watch and ring, but she was not engaged to him. He had sent her money by instalments of £10 per month, but said nothing to her about marriage. After she was married he ceased sending her money. A letter was read from him in which he informed the Official Receiver (Mr. S. W. Page) that she owed him £230. He lent her money under a promise that she would marry him. The proceedings were adjourned.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/2/1912

“At the County Court, on Wednesday, before Mr. Registrar Cope, Mrs. *Annie Eaton*, of the WATERGLADE INN, Willenhall, attended for further examination in bankruptcy. At a former hearing it was shown that before she was married she received gifts of money amounting to over £200 and presents from a man named Christie, in New York, and she had applied the money to her

business. The gifts were sent on her promising to marry him. It transpired that on the previous occasion some of her statements were not accurate and she now corrected them. The examination was further adjourned.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/3/1912

“At the County Court, on Wednesday, before Mr. Registrar Cope, Mrs. *Annie Eaton*, of the WATERGLADE INN, Willenhall, attended for further examination in bankruptcy. At the previous proceedings it was explained that a man named Alexander Christie, in America, had sent her money with the view of marrying her. As more information was desired from Christie, the examination was adjourned to enable this to be obtained.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/4/1912

“At the County Court, on Wednesday, before Mr. Registrar Cope, the examination in bankruptcy of Mrs. *Annie Rowledge*, late of the WATERGLADE INN, Willenhall, was resumed. In reply to inquiries, she repeated evidence at a former hearing that she had had £236 from Mr. A. Christie, of New York. She was engaged to marry him on condition he paid her debts, but she married another man. When she broke off the engagement she promised to return the money and some presents to him, but was not able to do so. The examination was further adjourned.”

London Gazette 2/7/1912

“Notice of Dividends *Annie Rowledge* (carrying on business under the style of *Annie Eaton*), WATERGLADE INN, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, licensed victualler (widow). Amount per Pound 1s 11½d, First and Final Settlement.”

It was used as a training gym by boxers. [1921]

Harry Ford was married to Barbara.

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/5/1937

“Twelve applications for the confirmation of licence removals remained to be heard by the Staffordshire Licensing Confirmation Committee when they resumed their sitting at Stafford on Tuesday. Sir William Goodwin (chairman) presided..... The justices approved six removals in the Willenhall Division. In several cases it was stated that the licence would be transferred from old houses in congested areas to modern premises in newly developed districts. In consideration the brewery companies would surrender other licences. The removals were as follows..... Removal of full licence of WATERGLADE INN, Bilston Street, Rose Hill, to premises proposed to be erected adjacent.”

Demolished

Rebuilt

[2003]

Closed

It was demolished in 2007.

WEST END TAVERN

New Road, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Parker [] – 1873);

R Wedge (1873 – []

H Fowler [1875]

Thomas Handley [1910]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Midland Counties Evening Express 9/3/1875

“William Tudor was brought up under warrant charged with assaulting Moses Dangerfield, at Willenhall, on the 24th February.

The complainant stated that on the day named, about noon, he was in the WEST END TAVERN, New Road, when the defendant entered. The latter, who was nearly drunk when he came in, stayed about an hour and a half, during which time he had a share of two quarts of drink, towards the cost of which he paid 3d. The landlord was present at the time. Defendant began to lift up a table with his teeth, and the landlord then told him to go out. Witness also asked him to go home, but defendant began to be abusive, and challenged him to fight. They went out, and defendant knocked him down and kicked him severely on both legs.

The defendant was further charged with being drunk and also with causing an affray in the street by fighting. Dangerfield was summoned for a similar offence last Monday, but was discharged, the evidence being to the effect that Tudor was the aggressor. A woman, named Goldby, said she saw the two men struggling together in the New Road on the day in question. Tudor knocked Dangerfield down, and kicked him 'fearfully', threatening at the same time to 'kick his —— ribs in'. When the affair was over, Dangerfield could scarcely walk.

Inspector Gasson said that he saw a crowd in New Road, and hearing that there had been a fight, he went into a stoneyard and found Tudor concealed there; he was bleeding from the mouth, and was under the influence of drink.

The Magistrates fined defendant 20s and costs for the assault and 5s and costs for being drunk, the charge of causing an affray being withdrawn."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 31/12/1875

"The annual dinner in connection with the Willenhall Star Bicycle Club took place at the house of Mr. *H. Fowler*, the WEST END TAVERN, New Road, on Thursday evening. Mr. Edward Holt occupied the chair, and Mr. John Gaunaty the vice-chair. An excellent repast was provided by the host, to which full justice was done by those present, about 30 in number. After dinner the toast of 'The Queen' was proposed, and the National Anthem having been heartily sung, Mr. Holt proposed 'The Health of our Host and Hostess,' which was responded to in an appropriate speech by the host. Mr. S. Hyde then proposed 'Success to the Willenhall Star Bicycle Club' to which Mr. S. Hargrove responded. The proceedings were enlivened at intervals by the vocal powers of Mr. S. Hyde, Mr. E. Holt, Mr. B. Waklam, and others, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all present, after which there were fire balloons sent up by one of the members."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1910

"Wolverhampton annual licensing sessions public houses were too numerous in Willenhall district.

Most of the licences were renewed, but several were deferred until the adjourned sessions.

The Chairman stated that at the adjourned sessions they would consider the question of referring for compensation WEST END INN, New Road, Willenhall."

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/3/1910

"Adjourned licensing sessions for the Seisdon division of the county.....

The magistrates considered objections to the renewal of four licenses at Willenhall on the ground of redundancy....

With regard to the WEST END TAVERN, New Road, Supt. Pilliner said it was ante-1869, and was in one of the best districts in the town. He did not think that there had ever been a conviction against the house, which was a small one in fair structural condition. There were 41 licenses with a 500 yard radius of the house. No opposition was offered to these licenses being referred for compensation."

Lichfield Mercury 1/7/1910

"On Friday the principal meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shirehall, Stafford

Licenses refused.....

WEST END TAVERN, Willenhall, ante-1869 beerhouse."

Lichfield Mercury 6/1/1911

"The annual report of the County Licensing Committee stated that at the principal meeting the committee refused to renew 27 licenses. At the supplemental meetings the committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard, upon oath, evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee considered that the amounts of compensation agreed upon were satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.....

WEST END TAVERN, Willenhall, beerhouse ante 1869, £425."

WHIMSEY

13, (105), High Road / Mill Lane, (Lane End) (73, Lane Head), (Lane Head Road), Sandbeds, (Short Heath), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

James Pritchard [1833]
Mrs. Catherine Pritchard [1845] – [1874]
James Pritchard [1861] ?
William Cornfield [] – 1881);
Jane Wolverson (1881 – []
William R Fenn [] – 1885);
Lot Duncombe (1885 – []
Horatio W Fisher [1892]
J Jeffs [1896]
Thomas ‘Tom’ Hall [1900] – [1909]
William Henry Hart [1912]
Richard Ratcliff [1914]
Edward Spooner [1916]
Frederick Thomas Crossley [1921] – [1940]

NOTES

Lane Head [1860], [1865], [1940]
Lane Head Road [1861]
73, Lane Head [1881]
Short Heath [1896]
105, High Road [1939]
13, High Road

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/9/1847

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

On Thursday, the 23rd instant, at the WHIMSEY, Lane Head, on the body of Frances Broomhall, a bankswoman, about eighteen years of age, who, on Wednesday last, while stepping from the plate of a stone pile, at which she was banking, on its side, for the purpose of pushing the waggon over the pit, fell down the shaft, and died in about twenty minutes afterwards. Verdict Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Lane Head

- [1] James Pritchard (53), lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [2] Mary Ann Pritchard (41), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Catherine Pritchard* (50), sister, victualler, born Willenhall;
- [4] Sarah Pritchard (68), aunt, visitor:

1861 Census

Lane Head Road – WHIMSEY INN – Public House

- [1] James Pritchard (64), widower, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Catherine Pritchard* (58), sister, victualler, born Willenhall;
- [3] Joseph Ball (75), relative, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [4] Selina Marsh (20), general servant, born Bentley;
- [5] Thomas Ford (21), boarder, brewer, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/8/1869 - Deaths

“July 26, Mr. James Pritchard, of the WHIMSEY INN, Lane Head, aged 72.”

1871 Census

Lane Head – WHIMSEY INN

- [1] *Catherine Pritchard* (68), licensed victualler, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/7/1876 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Farrington and Son, at the GEORGE HOTEL, Walsall, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of August, 1876, at five for six o’clock in the evening.....

All that old Full-Licensed Public-House known as the WHIMSEY INN, with the House, Buildings, and Land adjoining, in the occupation of *Catherine Pritchard* and her under-tenant, Leonard Smout, desirably situated at Short Heath, and having an extensive frontage to the junction of the roads to Willenhall and Wednesfield. The house contains bar-parlour, tap-room, kitchen, brew-house, cellar, capital lodge-room capable of holding 100 persons, and three bedrooms, with stable, and other outbuildings.”

1881 Census

73, Lane Head – WHIMSEY INN

- [1] *William Cornfield* (55), sheet iron roller and publican, born Bilston;
- [2] Sarah Cornfield (46), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Frederick W. Cornfield (14), son, excursionist clerk, born Moxley;
- [4] John B. Cornfield (12), son, born Moxley;
- [5] Richard Cornfield (8), son, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/6/1894

“At the Police Court, yesterday, Josiah Benjamin Jessop (60), Bloxwich, was charged with stealing a bottle of whisky from the WHIMSEY INN, Short Heath. On Saturday the prisoner was in the public-house, and on the whisky being missed he was searched and found to have it in his possession.

He now pleaded that he had been in an asylum, and when his head ‘went wrong’ he resorted to drink. He was fined 20s and the costs, or a months’ hard labour.”

1901 Census

Lane Head – WHIMSEY INN

- [1] *Thomas Hall* (40), licensed victualler, born Short Heath;
- [2] Sarah P. Hall (35), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] James E. Hall (5), son, born Walsall;
- [4] Thomas R. Hall (1), son, born Lane Head;
- [5] Mary Jane Smith (20), pianist, born Bloxwich;
- [6] Annie Burgess (19), general servant, born Wednesfield;
- [7] Nellie Burton (17), singer, born Dublin;
- [8] Jane P. Myring (68), visitor, widow, born Walsall:

Walsall Advertiser 29/8/1908

“*Thomas Hall*, licensee of the WHIMSEY INN, Lane Head, Short Heath, was summoned at Willenhall Police Court on Monday for selling a less quantity than a reputed pint of intoxicating liquor to a boy eight years of age, and without sealing the same; and William Crossley, lock maker, of Cross Street, Lane Head, was summoned for sending the boy for a less quantity than specified in the Act.

Police-inspector Beech saw the boy come out of the WHIMSEY INN at 12.40pm, on the 26th ult, with a half pint bottle of stout, which was corked but not sealed. When witness spoke to *Hall* the latter said he did not know he was doing wrong. *Hall*, who said he acted innocently, was fined 2s 6d and 13s 6d costs, and Crossley was ordered to pay the costs.”

Walsall Advertiser 2/1/1909

“Samuel Smith, miner, of Front Lane, Short Heath, was charged at Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, with being disorderly and refusing to quit the WHIMSEY INN, Lane Head, on the 22nd ult, and also with assaulting the licensee’s wife.

It appears that about 9.30pm on the date in question defendant was in the house creating a disturbance, and would not let a lady sing. While he was being ejected he struck Mrs. *Hall* in the face.

Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs for refusing to quit and 5s and costs for the assault.”

Walsall Observer 24/1/1914

“At Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, *Richard Ratcliff*, licensee of the WHIMSEY INN, Short Heath, was summoned for selling rum which was not of the nature, substance, or quality demanded, the same being diluted 12 per cent beyond the statutory limit.

Mr. A. R. Beavon (Wolverhampton) defended.

Mr. H. Van Tromp (inspector of foods and drugs) stated that on the 28th November an assistant inspector (Mr. Toy) purchased a quantity of rum from the WHIMSEY. Analysis showed it to be diluted with 12 per cent of water. He pointed out that it meant selling the extra portion of water at the same price as the spirit.

Toy, having spoken to purchasing the rum, from the defendant’s daughter, Mr. Beavon submitted on behalf of his client that he had no idea the rum was watered.

The magistrates imposed a fine of 40s and costs, the total being £3 3s 6d.”

1939 Register

105, High Road

- [1] *Frederick T. Crossley*, date of birth 21/12/1885, licensee (full), married;
- [2] *Eliza Crossley*, dob 23/12/1884, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Charles B. Crossley*, dob 12/3/1909, slaughterman and butcher’s manager, single;
- [4] *Arthur Crossley*, dob 16/6/1910, locksmith and metal pattern maker, single:

A team from here took part in the Short Heath Darts League. [1946]

Closed
Demolished
It was rebuilt in 1947.

[2016]

WHITE HORSE

Monmore Lane, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Pearson [1861] – [1864]
Henry Pearson [1865]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Monmore Lane

- [1] *Thomas Pearson* (43), boltmaker employing 3 men and beerseller, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Harriet Pearson* (42), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Henry Pearson* (18), son, boltmaker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *George Pearson* (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Catherine Pearson* (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Harriet Pearson* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Elizabeth Pearson* (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Emma Pearson* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] *David Brown* (18), boltmakers apprentice, born Coventry;
- [10] *Thomas Gee* (12), boltmakers apprentice, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/3/1863

“At the Police Court on Monday, *Mary Ann Morgan*, a little girl, aged ten years of age, was charged with stealing a copper teakettle from the house of *Thomas Pearson*, publican, of Monmore Lane. From the evidence it appeared that on the previous Friday the kettle had been missed from the brewhouse of the prosecutor, and on the succeeding day had been offered for sale in a battered condition by the prisoner, who lives in a yard adjoining the house, to *Mr. Knowle*, brasscaster, Stafford Street, Willenhall. She was committed to prison for six weeks.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/7/1863

“Before the Magistrates, on Tuesday, *Thomas Pearson*, beerhouse keeper, for selling beer after eleven o’clock on the night of the 4th instant, was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/10/1864

“At the Police Court, on Monday last, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher and Captain Deakin, *Thomas Pearson*, of Willenhall, beerhouse keeper, was charged with selling ale on Sunday morning, the 2nd instant, during the hours of divine service. The offence was proved by Police-constable Hampton, and the Bench inflicted a fine of £5 and costs. *Mr. Cresswell* defended.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/9/1865

“On Monday, at the Police Court, before the Rev. G. H. Fisher, *Henry Pearson*, landlord of the WHITE HORSE beerhouse, Monmore Lane, was summoned for permitting gambling in his house, on the 29th of August last.

Mr. Brevitt, of Darlaston, appeared in support of the charge, and *Mr. Cresswell* defended.

The summons had been taken out at the instance of *Inspector Thompson*, in consequence of information voluntarily tendered to him, and taken down in writing at the time, a follows:

‘*George Wootton*, locksmith, Little London, came to me in the evening of the 31st August, 1865, and stated he had been playing at cards on Tuesday, 29th, from 9 to 11 o’clock pm, at the WHITE HORSE beerhouse, Monmore Lane, kept by *Thomas Pearson*, with three others, named *Silas Constable*, *Henry Pearson*, the landlord’s son (whose name is now over the door for a disguise),

and William Johnson, for two quarts of ale. He stated that cards are played in *Pearson's* house from Monday morning to Saturday night regularly, and in fact, that he (*Pearson*) would have no sale for his ale were it not for the carding. *Thomas Pearson* served the ale himself. Wootton is desirous to give evidence against *Pearson* because he had caused Wootton to be summoned for assaulting a person in *Pearson's* house respecting the payment of ale lost at a game.'

Although the above statement was given voluntarily, and written down in the presence of Police-constables Hooper, Titterton, and Craddock, the young man Wootton now came forward, and with the coolest effrontery possible, he flatly denied on oath, ever having said anything of the sort. His evidence, after being cautioned, was as follows: I know the defendant *Pearson*. I never played at cards at his house in my life. I remember coming to Inspector Thompson on the 31st August last, I came to tell him what I was told. I told him that I went into *Pearson's* house on the night of the 29th of August. William Johnson was there too. He began about foot racing and I struck him. There came some fellow behind me and he said 'There's been a game afore here about carding.' I did not tell Inspector Thompson that I had been card playing at *Pearson's* house that night with three others – Constable, *Pearson*, and Johnson – for two quarts of ale. I did not tell the inspector that card playing was going on in *Pearson's* house from Monday morning till Saturday night. I have never seen card playing there at all, either in the house or near to it.

Silas Constable, Samuel Banks, and William Johnson were next called, but they all told the same tale as Wootton, almost word for word, denying most positively that they had ever seen card playing on defendant's premises. The last witness, Johnson, however, in reply to the Bench, admitted there was some card playing going off on the afternoon of the 29th August, in a field, about half a mile from defendant's house. The cards belonged to him, and he was playing with two strangers whom they met in the fields. The witness Wootton was by at the time. It was the strangers who proposed that they should play at cards. Witness previously had told them that he had a pack. He had not the cards with him when he went to *Pearson's* house in the evening because he had made away with them; he threw them away in the fields.

Mr. Fisher: And do you think that any sensible person in this court will believe such a statement? I don't believe a word you have said, and I am grieved to say that I entertain the same opinion with regard to the evidence of the others, Wootton, Constable, and Banks. After reading the statement written down by Inspector Thompson, Mr. Fisher continued: Here are four persons, who are implicated in this statement, who have the audacity, the wickedness to come here and say on their solemn oaths that there is not the slightest truth in that statement. Of course they will have to pay for this; they are to have some reward, no doubt, for coming here and injuring their own souls, by taking God's holy name in vain, and thwarting, as far as they can, the case of truth and justice. As respects Wootton, I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that he has committed the greatest perjury, and if that perjury can be proved hereafter against him, I will certainly have him punished for his conduct here today. I must say that the sanctity of the oath is not lightly treated in this Court that it is high time some example was made as a warning to others. I will remember, soon after this Court was first opened, a man had the audacity to come here and wilfully commit perjury; I committed him for trial, and he was convicted, and received as a punishment two years' imprisonment, and if I possibly can I will make a similar example of the witness Wootton. At present he leaves this Court with the stain upon his character of having wilfully sworn that which is false, and should he ever come up here as a witness again his testimony will not be received.

Police-constable Titterton stated to the Bench that he himself saw card playing in *Pearson's* house on Saturday night, after Wootton informed Inspector Thompson, but as it was on a different date to that alleged in the summons the case against the defendant was dismissed."

WHITE HORSE

Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Jackson [1834]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

WHITE LION

104, Lower Lichfield Street, (Hall Street), (Mount Pleasant), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Highgate Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1939)

LICENSEES

Mrs. Ann Hodson [1841] – 1850);
Joseph Hodson (1850 – 1860);
Georgiana Ann Hodson (1860 – []
Isaiah Pedley [1862] – 1871);
Benjamin Punfield (1871 – []
Isaac Pitt [1873] – [1875]
Catherine Pitt [] – 1879);
Francis George Ward (1879 – []
Edwin Thompson [] – 1881);
Albert Lovatt (1881 – []
George Bevan [1891] – [1892]
George Morgan [1896]
Thomas Young [1899]
Thomas Heath [1901]
Henry Thomas Deakin [1904] – [1912]
Frederick John Bramich [1916]
Randolph William Gaudion [1921]
Charles W Swinnerton [1932]
Samuel Storer [1939]
Samuel Silvers [1940]
T F Tudor []
A Payton [1959]

NOTES

Lichfield Street [1841]
Hall Street [1849], [1850]
Mount Pleasant [1850], [1851], [1860]

1841 Census

Lichfield Street

- [1] *Ann Hodson* (60), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Joseph Hodson* (25), musician, born Staffordshire;
- [3] Hannah H. Fowke (14), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Sarah Farmer (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1850

“At the Wolverhampton Police Court, on Wednesday last, George Starkey summoned the manager of the Willenhall Lodge No.1 Benefit Society for the payment of 9s, which he alleged was due to him as a sick member of that association, on the 16th November. He said although he was ill for a fortnight, yet he had only received only a week’s pay. Mr. Shipton conducted the complainant’s case, and Mr. Whitehouse appeared for the defence, which was that on the 31st of October, during complainant’s alleged illness, he was intoxicated in the WHITE LION public-house, Willenhall, and fought there. The magistrates dismissed the case.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/8/1850

“Transfer of Victuallers’ Licenses. Monday last being the day appointed for the transfer of licenses in the division of Seisdon North, the county Magistrates granted the following transfers that of the representatives of the late *Ann Hodson*, WHITE LION INN, Willenhall to *Joseph Hodson*, her son.”

1851 Census

Mount Pleasant

- [1] *Joseph Hodson* (36), victualler, born Willenhall;
- [2] Georgani A. Hodson (42), wife, born Bath;
- [3] Henrietta Fowke (25), visitor, born Willenhall;
- [4] Henrietta Hughes (10), visitor, born Dudley;
- [5] Mary Reasin (23), servant, born Willenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/12/1860

“At the County Police Court, Bilston Street, on Monday last, the Magistrates granted transfers of the licenses of the under-mentioned houses.....

the WHITE LION, Willenhall, from the late *Joseph Hodson* to his widow, *Georgiana Ann Hodson*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/4/1861 - Advert

“Willenhall, Staffordshire. To Music Dealers, Brokers, and Others.

H. W. Greaser is instructed by the Executors of the late Mr. *Joseph Hodson*, to Sell by Auction, on Friday next, the 19th day of April instant, at the WHITE LION, Lichfield Street, Willenhall, a portion of the excellent Household Furniture, consisting of mahogany and other Bedsteads, mahogany Chests of Drawers, Chairs and Tables, feather Beds and Bed Linen, a very fine-toned Cottage Pianoforte, in mahogany case, by Broadwood, of London, with mahogany Stool; also a rich-toned twelve-stop Harmonium, by Eugène Forest, à Paris, in elaborate rosewood case and seat, carefully selected by the late owner, who was an eminent judge of such instruments, and Organist at St. Giles’s Church, Willenhall.

The sale to commence at eleven o’clock.”

Isaiah Pedley was also a builder. [1864]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

Isaiah Pedley, WHITE LION, Willenhall, permitting gaming, fined 5s and costs.”

1871 Census

Lower Lichfield Street

[1] *Isaiah Pedley* (45), widower, victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Elizabeth Pedley (19), daughter, born Willenhall;

[3] Harriet Annie Pedley (13), daughter, born Willenhall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/10/1871

“At the County Police Court, yesterday the following transfers of publicans’ licenses were granted.....

WHITE LION, Willenhall, from the executors of the late *Isaiah Pedley*, to *Benjamin Punfield*.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 5/11/1874

“On Tuesday evening the members and friends of the Cleveland Lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows (Manchester Unity) held their annual dinner at the Lodge House, the WHITE LION INN, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall the hostess, Mrs. *Pitt*, had provided a good substantial dinner.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

“‘Defensio, Non Provocatio.’ Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the ‘Merchandize Marks Act, 1862,’ and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association.

Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.....

Willenhall: A Ford, CASTLE INN, New Road; A. Vaughan, GRAPES INN, Wood Street; Mrs. A. Marston, HOPE AND ANCHOR, Little London; *I. Pitt*, WHITE LION, Lichfield Street.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 17/2/1879

“Transfer of Licenses.....

WHITE LION, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall, from *Francis George Ward*, as executor of *Catherine Pitt*, deceased, to himself.”

Edwin Thompson = Edward Thompson

1881 Census

104, Lower Lichfield Street – WHITE LION

- [1] *Edwin Thompson* (39), licensed victualler, born Bolton, Lancashire;
- [2] *Annie M. Thompson* (41), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Gertrude Thompson* (12), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Eliza Bryan* (61), aunt, annuitant, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Ann Ball* (19), general servant, born Bilston:

Evening Express 31/10/1881

“William Fox (25) and Frances Micklewright (28), both of Hall Street, were summoned for assaulting Harriet Fox, wife of Fox. The case had been adjourned from last week owing to the complainant being unable to attend.

Mr. George Vaughan appeared to defend.

The complainant said that, on the 13th inst, she caught her husband and the woman Micklewright drinking together in the WHITE LION public house, Lower Lichfield Street. She spoke to them, and the female defendant at once jumped up and struck her several times, and her husband also assaulted her. Since then witness had been confined to her bed for a week, but she could not swear that this was the result of the ill-treatment referred to.

The defence was that Micklewright was the principal aggressor, and that Fox only tried to prevent his companion being struck with a ginger beer bottle which his wife had in her hand.

Although holding that the assault was a gross one the Bench imposed the lenient penalty of 10s and costs or 14 days’ hard labour on each defendant, such a fine as was imposed later on in an ordinary case of drunkenness.”

Evening Express 11/11/1881

“On Thursday afternoon an inquest was held at the WHITE LION HOTEL, Willenhall, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, district coroner, relative to the death of Henry Brown, tailor, Doctors Piece, Willenhall, under circumstances already reported in these columns.

From the evidence it appeared that the deceased had been in a weak state of mind for some time, and had been under the treatment of a physician in Birmingham. On Tuesday morning last he got up and came down stairs to the shop, and, about a quarter to seven o’clock, he was found by his daughter lying on the floor of the shop, with his throat cut. A razor was found on a seat about three yards away from him.

The jury returned a verdict, ‘That deceased Committed Suicide while in a state of Unsound Mind.’”

1891 Census

104, Lower Lichfield Street – WHITE LION INN

- [1] *George Bevan* (39), engine driver and licensed victualler, born Montgomeryshire;
- [2] *Adelia Bevan* (38), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *G. Thomas Bevan* (14), son, locksmith, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Prudence Bevan* (13), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Alfred T. Bevan* (9), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Patience Bevan* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Emma Bevan* (6), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Louisa Bevan* (5), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Eliza James* (75), boarder, born Montgomeryshire:

Notice given at Wolverhampton Licensing Sessions (August 1899) of opposition to the renewal of *T. Young’s* license “on grounds that he had made a new gateway”.

[It was adjourned until 25th September 1899, when the application was granted.]

1901 Census

104, Lower Lichfield Street

- [1] *Thomas Heath* (34), public house manager, born Walsall;
- [2] *Harriet A. Heath* (33), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Edith C. Heath* (12), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Thomas E. Heath* (10), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Daniel H. Heath* (8), son, born Walsall:

1911 Census

104, Lower Lichfield Street

- [1] *Henry Thomas Deakin* (50), licensed victualler, born Walsall;
- [2] *Phoebe Mary Deakin* (51), wife, married 25 years, assisting in business, born Hanley, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Joseph Henry Deakin* (23), son, harness maker, born West Australia;
- [4] *George Alfred Deakin* (16), son, driller in lock trade, born Walsall;
- [5] *Ada Kay* (24), servant, born Manchester:

Walsall Observer 29/7/1939

“More than fifty licensed premises in Walsall and neighbouring place become Mitchells and Butlers houses this week as a result of the well-known Cape Hill brewery company’s acquisition of the whole of the undertakings of the Highgate-Walsall Brewery Co.

Ltd., and the Walsall Breweries Proprietary Ltd., and of all the licensed and certain un-licensed properties of Messrs. John Lord, brewers, of Short Acre.....

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

Highgate houses.....

WHITE LION, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall.”

1939 Register

104, Lower Lichfield Street – Public House

[1] *Samuel Storer*, date of birth 5/1/1873, licensed house manager, married:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/2/1959

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

A. Payton, WHITE LION, Lower Lichfield Street, Willenhall.”

Closed

WHITE LION

Back Lane, (Church Lane), Short Heath WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1922]

LICENSEES

Samuel Smith [] – 1879);

Titus Squire (1879 – [1881]

William Harper [1891] – [1893]

John Williams [1901]

Miriam Evans [1922]

NOTES

Church Lane [1881]

Back Lane [1891], [1901]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

1881 Census

Church Lane, Short Heath – WHITE LION

[1] *Titus Squire* (72), farmer (36 acres, employing 1 man) and beer seller, born Willenhall;

[2] *Emma Squire* (62), wife, born Bilston;

[3] *Job Segeon* (21), boarder, keysmith, born Potteries;

[4] *Sarah Segeon* (20), wife, born Walsall;

[5] *Emma Morris* (15), general domestic servant, born Walsall:

1891 Census

Back Lane, Short Heath

[1] *William Harper* (50), publican, born Darlaston;

[2] *Sarah Jane Harper* (42), wife, born Walsall:

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/5/1891

“On the application of Mr. H. H. Jackson, a music and singing licence was granted for the WHITE LION INN, Little London, to be used only in connection with the meetings of the Black Hawk Minstrels.”

Walsall Advertiser 23/9/1893

“.....renewal of the license to George Hill, of the ROYAL OAK, Caldmore.....

Sarah Jane *Harper*, wife of *William Harper*, of the WHITE LION, Short Heath, and daughter of David Wood (deceased), said she had resided at the ROYAL OAK for over twenty years.....”

Walsall Observer 16/6/1900

“On Sunday morning Sarah Ann Walker (67), widow, who lived with two married daughters at Elmore Green, Bloxwich, was found in a dying state in a coppice known as Dales Wood, Bentley. The statement made at the time was that about half past nine on Sunday morning a man named Daniel Poole was on his land looking after some cattle which had strayed, when he discovered deceased, who was in a shocking plight, her wrists and face being badly bruised, and her clothing saturated with blood. Knowing the woman he called her by name, and she opened her eyes and said she was very ill, and that she had been lying in the wood all night. Assistance was obtained from a cottage near by, but deceased rapidly sank, and died very shortly afterwards.

At the Willenhall Police Court, on Monday, a man named Jabez Pugh (28), a miner, of Field Street, Bloxwich, was charged with causing the death of the deceased.

Inspector Oakden said that about midnight on Sunday he arrested prisoner on suspicion of having caused the woman’s death, and told him that he was the last person seen in her company. Prisoner replied, ‘Yes.’ Witness applied for a week’s remand, which was granted.

The inquest was held on Wednesday morning, at the WHITE LION, Short Heath, by the County Coroner (Mr. T. A. Stokes), the accused Jabez Pugh being present, and was represented by Mr. A. J. Glover.

Mary Ann Beddow, 19, Elmore Green, Bloxwich, said that the deceased was her mother, and lived with her. Her mother was the widow of John Walker, farm labourer, of Bloxwich. She last saw her mother alive at 10.45pm on Saturday, when she went out of the house with a small whisky bottle. Witness saw Jabez Pugh on that night at about 10.30pm in the passage to the BULLS HEAD INN, which was a short distance from her house. The prisoner paid for a pint of ale at the BULLS HEAD for witness, her mother, and her niece. He also paid for some drink for witness and her mother at the GEORGE INN. They left him in the GEORGE, and went home, and immediately after they got in her mother went out without saying anything as to where she was going. Prisoner was dressed in uniform when they met him. In consequence of what she was told, she went to a small wood at Bentley on Sunday morning, and found her mother there dead.

Joseph Beddow, husband of the last witness, said that on Saturday last, at twenty-five minutes to eleven, Mrs. Walker went out. Witness heard Pugh call her to go and have a drink. Prisoner’s wife was ill, and he (prisoner) asked deceased to visit her, but she refused, and he then asked her to go and have a glass. They started over towards the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN. She did not come back that night, and, when he saw her on Sunday morning in the wood near Bentley, she was just dying. She was bleeding when he saw her.

John Smith, landlord of the THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN, said that about five minutes to eleven, the deceased came to his house. Witness’s wife served her with some whisky. She was quite sober at the time, and was alone.

Fanny Hawley, Front Lane, Short Heath, said that on Saturday night, between twenty minutes and a quarter to eleven, she was walking in the direction of Bloxwich Railway Station with a young man, named John Jarvis. Witness saw Mrs. Walker, and a man in uniform with her, going in the direction of Bentley, where deceased was found.

Daniel Poole, Front Lane, Short Heath, said that on Sunday morning he was in his garden about 9am, when he saw something lying in a wood, about 40 yards away. He went down, and found the deceased (Sarah Ann Walker). Witness spoke to her, and she opened her eyes and said, ‘I am very bad, Dan’. The wind blew deceased’s bonnet aside, and showed him that she had a blackened eye. Witness asked her if she had been quarrelling with her daughter or anybody, and she said, ‘No’. Witness then asked her what brought her with a black eye, and she replied, ‘I have tumbled down, Dan’. Deceased said that she would like a cup of tea, and witness went to get one. On going back he saw a young woman, named Elizabeth Anson, and told her that Mrs. Walker was lying down and wanted some tea. They went back to the deceased together and tried to lift her up, but she refused to rise. A man who came up said that he would go to Bloxwich and tell Mrs. Beddow, and witness then went back home, not thinking that deceased was in such a dangerous condition. He saw no marks except the black eye. There was a footpath through the coppice, used by workmen as a short cut. The deceased was lying across the footpath, which was about 200 yards from the turnpike road. In answer to Mr. Glover, witness said that deceased made no complaint about anyone, and he saw no blood anywhere. Deceased was quite sensible when she spoke to him. Witness had never seen deceased drunk, but he knew that she was given to drinking. Hannah Gosling, living at Beechdale Cottage, on the canal side, said that on Sunday morning she went into the coppice at the bottom of her house. Daniel Poole and Elizabeth Anson told her about Sarah Walker being in the coppice, and witness took her a cup of tea, and saw that her eye was discoloured and the bridge of her nose disfigured. Witness asked deceased what brought her there, and she said she did not know. Witness asked if she had been quarrelling with anyone at home, as she frequently did, but she replied that she had not. Witness asked her how long she had been there, and she said she had been there all night. Witness then asked her how she came there, and she said she had been brought there, but she did not know who by. Witness lifted her up, and she died with her head on witness’s knee. Witness saw her about ten o’clock, and at 10 minutes to 11 she died. Her clothing and boots were saturated with blood, and her wrist was frightfully blackened.

Police-constable Dodge (256), of the County Police, stationed at Short Heath, said that on Sunday morning, from information he had received, he went down to the coppice at Bentley at 10.55am. The woman was dead when he arrived, and he removed the body to the WHITE LION. He examined the body and found that the face and wrists were discoloured, and her clothes were saturated in blood. The place where she was found was about a mile from where she lived. On information received he went to the coppice again on the morning of the inquest, and found marks of a severe struggle having taken place about 200 yards from where the body was found. He had been given a flask containing some whisky which was found there, and there were marks showing that a man had knelt.

John Smith, of the THATCHED HOUSE, identified the flask as one that the deceased brought to his house on the Saturday night. The officer, continuing, said deceased appeared to have struggled towards the cottage where she once lived, as she was found at a

distance of only 50 yards from the cottage while the marks of the struggle were 240 yards away.

Ernest Dodge, son of the last witness, said that he found the flask about 250 yards away from where the woman was found. He found it at about 8.30 on Tuesday night. He also saw signs of a struggle.

Jabez Pugh, collier, in the employment of the Springhill Colliery, Essington, having been duly cautioned, said that on Saturday night he was in uniform. He saw Mrs. Walker about 9.30pm on the Saturday night, when she was in the BULLS HEAD INN. He treated her to a glass of whisky, and had a pint of ale himself. She went out, leaving him drinking with another man. Later on he saw her in the GEORGE, where he had a pint of ale, and she had some more whisky, and, then she went away again. He did not go and call Mrs. Walker out on that night, and he did not ask her to go and have another drink with him. He saw her outside her house, but he did not walk off with her towards the THATCHED HOUSE. He was not walking in the direction of Bentley with her at about a quarter to eleven, and the last occasion on which he saw her was when she was leaning against her door shouting just before eleven. He had not asked Mrs. Walker to attend to his wife, as he had got one woman who was doing that work. There was a route march in the afternoon and there were a lot of the volunteers in uniform about the town. There were also militiamen about. He reached home at 12 o'clock, and between 11 and 12 he was walking about. The BULLS HEAD was about half a mile from his house, and going home he met several people he knew, but spoke to no one. The blood on the white cuff of his tunic was caused by his nose bleeding outside the GEORGE. The shoulder strap which was torn had been unstitched for some time, and the belt hook which was missing had been lost for months. With regard to the dirt on the trousers he had no idea how they got in such a state. There was also blood on his belt, but that got on from his nose at the same time as the other did on the cuff. The torn bayonet frog which was produced was an old one, and the one he wore on Saturday was in his house somewhere. Both himself and Mrs. Walker were sober. When he got home he spoke to no one except his wife. There was not a woman named Allen in the house when he reached home at twelve.

Eliza Allen, Field Street, Bloxwich, said that she was a near neighbour of Pugh's, and had known him for some time. She was in and out of Pugh's house all Saturday night, and the last time she went there was at twenty minutes to two in the morning. Witness left the house at two o'clock, and Pugh had not arrived at that time. Witness was absolutely certain on that point. There was no one in the house except Mrs. Pugh, who locked the door when witness left for the last time.

Dr. J. T. Hartill, MRCS, LRCP, police surgeon, in practice in Willenhall, said that he had made a post mortem examination on the body of the deceased on Tuesday, and found recent bruises and abrasions on both knees. The clothing worn by the woman was saturated with blood, and the external injuries would not account for the saturation. He attributed death to collapse and shock, due to rupture of the liver, injury to the kidneys, and effusion of blood into the peritoneum. He was further of the opinion that these conditions were brought about by violence, and that not long before her death the woman passed some bloody fluid from the right kidney. It seemed to be impossible that three conditions, namely, a rupture of the liver, a bruised kidney, with blood in considerable quantity in the cavity of the abdomen – could be present in combination except as the result of external violence. He would describe the woman as being unhealthy, although possessed of a strongly built frame. It would have needed considerable violence to have caused the symptoms found. A person might live for twenty four hours after the injuries. He thought that the bruises on the face and knees were the result of a fall. The blood on Pugh's tunic &c, might have been caused in the manner stated by him.

Thomas Oakden, inspector of police at Willenhall, said that on Sunday afternoon he saw the body of the deceased and called in Dr. Hartill. About 11.30 that night, witness, assisted by Inspector Marshall, (Walsall Police), arrested prisoner at his own house, from whence he was taken to Bloxwich Police Station. Prisoner, on being told that he was arrested for being the last person who was seen with deceased, answered, 'Yes'. Prisoner seemed quite cool and collected. Witness took possession of prisoner's uniform, the trousers were covered with dirt, the belt hook on the tunic was lost, and the shoulder strap torn partly off. Afterwards he found the damaged bayonet frog between the bed and the mattress. The distance from deceased's house to the wood was about a mile. Inspector Marshall, of the Walsall Police, in charge of the Police Station at Bloxwich, said that he went with the last witness to Pugh's house, and found the belt at the bottom of the steps leading into the cellar.

Sergeant Eaton, sergeant instructor to E Company of Bloxwich Volunteers said that Jabez Pugh was a member of that Corps, and that on Saturday there was a parade. Pugh was present, and was dressed in the clothes produced. Witness dismissed them about 6pm. Witness said that he would have noticed the shoulder strap had it been torn on parade. Witness did not know of anyone who had two frogs, but Pugh might have had two. At 9 o'clock on Saturday night witness thought that there might have been about 30 volunteers in uniform at the BULLS HEAD.

In answer to Mr. Glover, witness said that although there was no close examination he was sure that he would have noticed the tunic if it had been torn. Prisoner had been in the Volunteers for 10 years, and witness for two, so that it was possible to have had two of the frogs without witness knowing.

The Coroner having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder by some person or persons unknown."

[Pugh was found not guilty at Stafford Assizes.]

1901 Census

Back Lane, Short Heath – WHITE LION

[1] *John Williams* (28), inn keeper and haulier, born Lane Head

[2] *Sarah J. Williams* (28), wife, born Short Heath;

[3] *Dora Williams* (2), daughter, born Short Heath;

[4] *Bert Williams* (6 months), son, born Short Heath:

South Staffordshire Times 27/7/1922

"The principal meeting of the County Licensing Committee was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Thursday morning.....

The licenses of the WHITE LION, Short Heath (*Miriam Evans*) were also refused."

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/8/1922

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County of Stafford.

Notice as to sending in Claims to be treated as Persons Interested in Licensed Premises.

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

WHITE LION, Short Heath,. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Miriam Evans*. Registered owners, Frank Myatt Ltd.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/10/1922

“A Supplementary Meeting of the Staffordshire Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1910, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday. The Committee approved the following awards of compensation.....

WHITE LION, Short Heath, beerhouse, ante 1869, £1,100.”

It closed in 1922, after £1,100 compensation was paid.

WHY NOT

41, Dilloways Lane, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Robert Roberts [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

41, Dillaways Lane [sic] – WHY NOT

[1] *Robert Roberts* (41), grocer and publican, born Llantsinthead, Monmouthshire;

[2] Sarah Roberts (53), wife, born Oakengates;

[3] Samuel Jones (26), stepson, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Matilda Roberts (19), daughter, pit banks, born Wolverhampton;

[5] Caroline Roberts (17), daughter, attending at grocery, born Wolverhampton;

[6] Benjamin Roberts (13), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton:

WINDMILL

10, Aston Road / Webb Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Enterprise Inns [1990s]

LICENSEES

Arthur Bates [1983] – **1985**)

NOTES

It opened with the license from the WINDMILL, Walsall Street.

It had a bowling green which was converted into a garden. [1933]

[2007]

Closed [2009], [2012]
Demolished [2014]

Express & Star 4/8/2022

“Communities across Walsall have been forced to endure the depressing sight of once-thriving boozers calling time for good for a number of years. Factors such as high beer taxes, supermarkets selling cheaper alcohol and changing habits are among reasons cited why so many pubs are forced to close permanently. For those buildings not brought back into use as pubs, bars or restaurants, developers have seized the opportunity to re-imagine them as housing schemes which will change the landscape of the streets they sit in. Here are a few old pubs which are set to be converted into apartments or houses, having secured planning permission in the past several years.....

WINDMILL, Aston Road, Willenhall, closed more than 10 years ago but which was finally demolished in 2013, leaving the site vacant ever since. But a proposal to build a complex featuring 25 flats was put forward in 2020 and is awaiting permission to be built. There have been previous applications for housing developments, including the building of a care home there, but these failed to come to fruition. In the application, planning agents IDP said the proposed development would improve both the empty site and the wider area.”

Express & Star 16/8/2023

“A housing scheme will finally be built on the site of a former Willenhall pub after plans were given the go-ahead. Aston Road Development Ltd has been granted permission to create 19 flats in a complex on land on Aston Road where the WINDMILL INN once stood. The pub closed well over a decade ago and was finally demolished in 2013 and the site left vacant ever since. An application for 25 apartments was originally put forward in 2020 but this has been reduced by six and Walsall Council planners approved this week.....”

WINDMILL

Walsall Street / Gipsy Lane (Mortifal Street), WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/2/1913

“Objections were raised to the renewal of several licences, and the magistrates ordered the following licences to be scheduled for compensation the WINDMILL INN, Walsall Street, Willenhall.”

The license was transferred to the WINDMILL, Aston Road.

WINDSOR CASTLE

10, (29), Wednesfield Road, Little London, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

William Butler & Co. Ltd. [1946]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Job Stanley [1860] – **1881**;
Thomas Stanley (**1881** – [1891]
Joseph Walton [1901] – [1904]
Mrs. Rachel Walton [1911] – [1912]

Joseph Burrows [1932] – [1940]
Ernest Clarke (1959 – 1975)

NOTES

29, Wednesfield Road [1871]
10, Wednesfield Road [1881], [1911], [1939], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Sporting Life 22/8/1860

“T. Parker of Willenhall, will run J. Canlett, of Darlaston, 100 yards level, for £10 a side; or he will run C. Copper, of the New Invention, on the same terms; or he will give D. Onions, of the New Invention, one yard start, for £10 a side. A match can be made any time at *J. Stanley*’s, WINDSOR CASTLE, Little London Willenhall.”

Job Stanley, beer retailer, Little London. [1861], [1865]

Job Stanley, retailer of beer, Little London. [1862]

Job Stanley, beer retailer, Wednesfield Road. [1868], [1872]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/8/1869

“Yesterday the county licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton district was held at the county magistrates’ office, Agricultural Hall, Wolverhampton. The magistrates present were Sir John Norris, and Messrs. S. Cartwright, A. S. Hill, G. L. Underhill, and R. D. Gough. Superintendent McCrea handed in to the Bench a copy of the following list of licensed victuallers who had been fined during the past five years.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined for selling and keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Job Stanley, WINDSOR CASTLE, Spring Bank, 5s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Wolverhampton division of the county of Stafford was held yesterday.....

The applications for new spirit licenses were then considered.....

Mr. J. E. Underhill asked for a license for Mr. *Job Stanley*, the WINDSOR CASTLE, Wednesfield Road, Little London. Mr. Thurstans opposed on behalf of three licensed victuallers in the neighbourhood. The license was refused.”

1871 Census

29, Wednesfield Road

[1] *Job Stanley* (52), beerhouse keeper, WINDSOR CASTLE, born Willenhall;

[2] Susannah Stanley (44), wife, born Bilston;

[3] James H. Stanley (12), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[4] *Thomas Stanley* (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] Betsy Shaw (16), general servant, born Bilston:

1881 Census

10, Wednesfield Road

[1] *Job Stanley* (60), licensed victualler, born Willenhall:

[2] Susan Stanley (54), wife, born Willenhall:

[3] James Stanley (22), son, clerk, born Willenhall:

[4] *Thomas Stanley* (20), son, clerk, born Willenhall:

Evening Express 2/6/1881

“On Wednesday afternoon, W. H. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the WINDSOR CASTLE INN, Little London, Willenhall, on the body of Thomas Jones (55), an itinerant fiddler, lately residing in Little London.

Sarah Jones, the widow of the deceased, sad she had been married to him for about 18 years, and latterly he had obtained his living by playing the fiddle in public houses and places of amusement. He left home on Monday morning, saying that he was going to Darlaston, and afterwards probably to Bilston. He took his fiddle with him, but she did not know that he had any special appointment.

Thomas Hill, of Darlaston, gave evidence to seeing deceased in the canal at Little London on Tuesday morning. Deceased would have to cross a dangerous bridge to get to his home.

Moses Deakin, miner, Portobello, said that he was at the HIMLEY ARMS, Bilston, on Monday night, and afterwards another house, where he saw the deceased, who was the worse for beer at the time.

Police-sergeant Williams said on recovering the deceased from the water in the canal on Tuesday morning life was extinct. In deceased’s pockets he found 4½d, but there was no marks of violence on the body. The place where deceased was found was dangerous, and at dark anyone might walk into the canal.

The jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/9/1884

“Yesterday, Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest at the WINDSOR CASTLE INN, Little London, concerning the death of the infant child of William Fox, miner, Wednesfield Road. On Saturday night the child was sent to bed. The next morning it was found to be dead, having been accidentally suffocated during the night. A verdict of Accidental Suffocation was returned by the jury.”

1891 Census

Wednesfield Road – WINDSOR CASTLE

- [1] *Thomas Stanley* (30), beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Florence Stanley* (28), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Edith H. Stanley* (7), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *George N. Stanley* (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Isaac Stanley* (4), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Lydia M. Stanley* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *James Edward Stanley* (8 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [8] *Louisa Hadley* (19), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [9] *Elsie Hanna* (6), visitor, scholar, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/4/1893

“The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890. Receiving Orders.....

Thomas Stanley, WINDSOR CASTLE INN, Wednesfield Road, Willenhall, beerhouse keeper.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/4/1893

“A meeting of the creditors of *Thomas Stanley*, of the WINDSOR CASTLE INN, Wednesfield Road, Willenhall, was convened to be held yesterday at the office of the Official Receiver (Mr. E. Pritchard) at Wolverhampton. The liabilities were set down at £448 1s 1d, and the assets at £25 16s 2d. The bankrupt was formerly a railway clerk, but in 1881 took to the WINDSOR CASTLE INN, on his father leaving the business. He had no capital at the time. He agreed to pay £20 rent, and at the time of filing the petition owed his father £110 for rent and five other creditors £95 for money lent. He attributed his failure to ill-health, expenses of a large family, bad debts, and want of capital.

The debtor was afterwards examined at Wolverhampton County Court, before Mr. Registrar Sanders, and, in reply to Mr. Pritchard, denied that he had been accustomed to drinking or gambling. It was pointed out that he owed a considerable sum for rent and malt, and that he had received money through his wife, and, on being asked where the money had gone, he explained that his trade was a low-class one, mostly of an out-door character, and that he had to give pretty well of credit. He was allowed to pass.”

1901 Census

Wednesfield Road – WINDSOR CASTLE

- [1] *Joseph Walton* (34), general keysmith and publican, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Rachel Walton* (38), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Charles Walton* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Joseph Henry Walton* (2), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Horace Walton* (3 months), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Nellie Williams* (18), general servant, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Nellie Stanley* (14), general servant, born Willenhall:

Joseph Walton, beer retailer, 10, Wednesfield Road. [1904]

1911 Census

10, Wednesfield Road – WINDSOR CASTLE

- [1] *Rachel Walton* (48), widow, publican (landlady), beerhouse, born Willenhall;
- [2] *J. Henry Walton* (12), son, school, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Horace Walton* (10), son, school, born Willenhall;
- [4] *George Walton* (8), son, school, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Frederick Walton* (5), son, school, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Doris Walton* (2), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [7] *Annie Stringer* (19), servant, born Willenhall:

Mrs. *Rachel Walton*, beer retailer, 10, Wednesfield Road. [1912]

South Staffordshire Times 11/10/1919

“At the Police Court, on Saturday, William Duffield, 21, Roglan Street, Willenhall, a gas worker was charged with attempting to murder Gertrude Yates (32) by pushing her into the canal at Willenhall on October 3rd.

Inspector Beech said that the prisoner had been keeping company with the prosecutrix for about three years. At 7.30 on Friday

evening he called at her house, and they subsequently went for a walk together. Prisoner called in at the SPRING VALE HOTEL to get a drink, and upon rejoining Yates, suggested they should go along the canal side, and call upon the latter's aunt at the WINDSOR CASTLE INN. They went along the canal from Monmore Lane, and when near the Navigation prisoner suggested they should stand a minute or two. They remained about three minutes, conversing upon their approaching marriage when prisoner suddenly caught hold of Yates by the shoulder, twisted her round without saying a word, and flung her into the canal. The woman shouted 'Help!' and 'Murder!' and, scrambling to the side, endeavored to get out, appealing to Duffield not to let her drown. Prisoner is stated then to have pushed the woman on the head with his foot back, into the water remarking, 'Get in you _____'.

Prisoner then went away, and the woman got out of the canal. Meeting some boys, they escorted her to her aunt's at the WINDSOR CASTLE. The Inspector added that, so far as he could gather, there had been no quarrel between the two.

Police-constable Rose deposed that at 8.55pm, he saw Yates at the WINDSOR CASTLE. The whole of her clothing was wet, and her hair also. He found prisoner at his lodgings. He informed him that he would have to accompany him to the Police Station. Duffield said, 'If I have done anything I will go with you, but I know I haven't. I left her by Handley's, and gave her a shilling to get some mushrooms for her supper. I haven't seen her since.'

At midnight witness cautioned and charged prisoner with attempting to murder Yates. He replied:

I am innocent of this. If I go to prison over it I will go for something after. What do you mean attempted murder? Can you bring anyone to prove it? What are you talking about? Attempted murder! Are you mad? If I wanted to murder her I should have murdered her, not half-done it. She would not have got out if I had meant to do it. She had told me months ago there would be some trouble.

The magistrate (Mr. S. Lister) asked prisoner if he wished to ask the officer anything.

Prisoner: I want to tell you everything. I have been courting this young lady.

Mr. Lister: You are not being tried today so I do not think it will help you.

Prisoner: She told me more than twelve months ago if I did not have her she would drown herself.

Inspector Beech applied for prisoner to be remanded until Monday next. He said the man was a widower with two children, and the banns had been published for him to be married to prosecutrix on Sunday week. The inspector had seen the woman that morning; she was in bed suffering from shock, but the doctor thought she would be well enough to attend court on Monday.

Prisoner was then remanded, an application for bail being objected to by the police, and consequently refused.

Mondays Hearing.

The case was again before the court on Monday, when Mr. Turton appeared for the defence. He said he had not sufficient time to prepare his defence to a serious charge of this kind, and had to ask for a remand for a week.

The prisoner was arrested on Friday night and brought before the justices on Saturday.

The magistrates announced that the case would be adjourned for a week, and the defendant would remain in custody."

Joseph Burrows, beer retailer, 10, Wednesfield Road. [1932]

1939 Register

10, Wednesfield Road – WINDSOR CASTLE INN

[1] *Joseph Burrows*, date of birth 7/12/1866, innkeeper, widowed;

[2] *William H. Fellows*, dob 10/5/1890, electrical switch board attendant, married;

[3] *Ethel M. Fellows*, dob 1/2/1890, domestic and bar attendant, married:

A team from here took part in the Willenhall (Butlers) Darts League. [1946]

Ernest Clarke was a councillor on Willenhall UDC (1955–1966), Chairman (1961–1962).

He was also president of Willenhall LVA.

He was married to Vera.

Closed

Demolished

WOODMAN

16, Acorn Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Pedley [1834]

William Robert [1861]

Samuel Barratt [1881]
William Broadhurst [1891]
Josiah Broadhurst [1901] – [1911]
Mrs. May Raybould [1932] – [1940]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/2/1839 - Notice

“The Creditors of *Joseph Pedley*, of Willenhall, victualler, are requested to meet at the sign of the TURKS HEAD INN, in Willenhall, on Friday, the 22nd day of February instant, at five o'clock in the afternoon, when a statement of his affairs will be laid before them, and a composition offered to them.

Willenhall, February 19, 1839.”

1861 Census

Acorn Street, Walsall Road – Beer House

- [1] *William Robert* (32), house carpenter employing 1 man 1 boy, and beerhouse keeper, born Tettenhall;
- [2] Ann Robert (29), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] Emily Robert (6), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] William S. Robert (4), son, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [5] Ann E. Robert (1), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Thomas Willoughby (14), on trial as an apprentice to carpenter, born Tettenhall;
- [7] Caroline Read (14), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 11/9/1869 - Deaths

“On the 7th inst, at the WOODMAN INN, Acorn Street, Willenhall, aged 61 years, Sarah, the beloved wife of Mr. *William Broadhurst*, wood turner; deeply regretted.”

William Broadhurst (59), widower, wood-turner, married Eliza Hodson (48), widow, on 21st March 1871.

1881 Census

16, Acorn Street – WOODMAN

- [1] *Samuel Barratt* (44), locksmith and publican, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Mary Barratt (47), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Samuel J. Barratt (16), son, wheelwright, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Sarah E. Barratt (14), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] John G. Barratt (10), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1882

“Liquidations By Arrangement.

Samuel Barratt, late of the WOODMAN INN, Acorn Street, Willenhall, but now of the STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT INN, Charles Street, Wolverhampton, publican and locksmith.”

1891 Census

16, Acorn Street – WOODMAN INN

- [1] *William Broadhurst* (79), beer retailer, born Erdington;
- [2] Eliza Broadhurst (67), wife, born Dawley Green, Shropshire;
- [3] Richard F. Hodson (29), visitor, born Willenhall;
- [4] Louisa Astbury (17), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

Acorn Street – WOODMAN INN

- [1] *Josiah Broadhurst* (49), wood turner, born Willenhall;
- [2] Caroline Broadhurst (49), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Josiah Broadhurst (25), son, iron moulder, born Willenhall;
- [4] Gertrude Broadhurst (23), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] Mary Broadhurst (19), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [6] Henry Broadhurst (17), son, imbecile, feeble minded from childbirth, born Willenhall;
- [7] Fred Broadhurst (14), son, iron brusher, born Willenhall;
- [8] Maud Broadhurst (11), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [9] Emily Broadhurst (9), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [10] Olive Broadhurst (4), daughter, born Willenhall:

1911 Census

16, Acorn Street

- [1] *Josiah Broadhurst* (59), widower, woodturner &c, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Henry Broadhurst* (26), son, unfit for employment, feeble minded, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Alice Maud Broadhurst* (21), daughter, pawnbroker's assistant, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Emily Broadhurst* (19), daughter, housekeeper, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Olive Beatrice Broadhurst* (14), daughter, dressmaker's apprentice, born Willenhall:

Mrs. May Raybould, beer retailer, 16, Acorn Street. [1932]

Closed

Demolished

WOOLPACK

37, Coltham Road, (4, Short Heath), (Front Lane), (**Lane Head**), Short Heath, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Duncomb Snr. [1831] – **1854**;

Joseph Duncombe Jnr. (**1854** – **1878**);

Sarah Ann Duncomb (**1878** – []

Levi Smith (**1882** – [1885]

William Benton [1891]

Michael Benton [1892]

Charles Hodgkiss [1896]

Mrs. Harriet Elwell [1900] – [1904]

Catherine Elwell [1901] ?

George Elwell [1908]

Arthur Tew [1911] – [1940]

Stan Furphy (**1994** – **1997**)

Irene Southam []

NOTES

Lane Head [1831]

4, Short Heath [1871]

Front Lane [1901]

37, Coltham Road [1940]

Joseph Duncomb = *Joseph Duncombe*

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/7/1831 - Advert

“Freehold Buildings, at Lane Head, in the County of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction on Friday, the 29th day of July, 1831, at four o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Duncombe*, the WOOLPACK, in Lane Head aforesaid.....”

Joseph Duncomb was also a locksmith. [1833]

He was described as also being a cabinet lock maker. [1849], [1850], [1860], [1870], [1872]

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/6/1852

“On Monday last, the following inquests were held before W. W. Ward, Esq., acting for T. M. Phillips, Esq.....

at the WOOLPACK, Short Heath, on the body of John Green, a keysmith, who died suddenly in a fit, while at work. Verdict

according to the circumstances.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/8/1856

“Applications for new licenses. There were fourteen applications altogether for licenses to sell spirits – all from beershop keepers – only four of which were granted by the Magistrates.

Mr. Bartlett, attorney, applied on behalf of Daniel Squire, BANK TAVERN, Willenhall, and urged that in consequence of the great increase of the works in the neighbourhood and of the population, an additional license was necessary. Six well-worked pits had been recently opened in the vicinity. The father of the claimant was the owner of the house, which had lately been newly embellished; the certificate had received the signature of the clergyman of the parish and other highly respectable inhabitants, the police gave a high character of the house during its management as a beershop, and there was no licensed house within half a mile. Mr. *Joseph Duncombe*, of the WOOLPACK, however, came forward, and stated that the applicant’s house was within 300 yards of his premises, and the Magistrates refused the license.”

Joseph Duncomb was described as also being a trunk and cabinet lock manufacturer. [1861], [1873]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/11/1862

“Local Bankruptcy Cases.....

Joseph Duncombe, the younger, victualler and locksmith, of Short Heath, Willenhall, supported by Mr. Cresswell, and opposed by Mr. Ebsworth. Adjourned for amendment of accounts.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/5/1863

“Bankrupts.....

Joseph Duncombe, lockmaker, Willenhall, supported by Mr. Cresswell, and opposed by Mr. Ebsworth. The Judge granted his discharge conditionally, that within two years be paid the sum of £30 into court.”

1871 Census

4, Short Heath

- [1] *Joseph Duncombe* (48), licensed victualler, born Short Heath;
- [2] Susannah Duncombe (44), wife, born Short Heath;
- [3] Joseph Duncombe (24), son, locksmith, born Short Heath;
- [4] Sarah A. Duncombe (14), daughter, assistant in house, born Short Heath;
- [5] Daniel Duncombe (11), son, scholar, born Short Heath;
- [6] Emma Duncombe (11), daughter, scholar, born Short Heath;
- [7] Abigail Duncombe (4), daughter, scholar, born Short Heath:

1878 Probate

“Administration (with the Will) of the Personal Estate of *Joseph Duncomb*, late of the WOOLPACK INN, Short Heath, in the Township of Willenhall, in the County of Stafford, Publican, who died 29 March 1878 at Short Heath, was granted at Lichfield on 12 July to *Sarah Ann Duncomb* of Short Heath, Spinster, the Daughter, the Administratrix (with the Will) of the Personal Estate of *Susannah Duncomb*, Widow, the Relict, the sole Executrix and Residuary Legatee. Personal Estate under £100.”

AND

“Special Administration (with the Will) of the Personal Estate of *Susannah Duncomb* (heretofore Wife of *Joseph Duncomb*), late of Short Heath, in the Township of Willenhall, in the County of Stafford, Widow, who died 12 April 1878 at Short Heath, was granted at Lichfield on 5 July to *Sarah Ann Duncomb* of Short Heath, Spinster, the Daughter, one of the Next of Kin, one of the Residuary Legatees, and one of the Persons entitled in Distribution to the undisposed of effects. Personal Estate under £100.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/8/1878

“Yesterday, at Wolverhampton County Police Court, the following licenses were fully transferred.....
A beerhouse license at Short Heath, to *Sarah Ann Duncomb*, administratrix of *Joseph Duncomb*, deceased.”

Evening Express 4/4/1881

“Emmanuel Broomhall, keysmith, Short Heath, was fined a like amount [10s and costs] for assaulting Ephraim Poole. The parties were in the WOOLPACK INN, Short Heath, one night last week. The defendant, without permission, drank some ale belonging to the complainant, and on the latter objecting, Broomhall struck him in the face, loosening three of his teeth.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/11/1886

“*Levi Smith*, publican, of Short Heath, was also examined at the Wolverhampton Bankruptcy Court, yesterday. The statement of affairs showed the liabilities to be £154 and the assets £3, leaving a deficit of £151. The debtor acquired the WOOLPACK INN, at Short Heath, four years ago, for £415. He subsequently borrowed £250 on mortgage, on this being called in during 1884 he borrowed £300 on a new mortgage. The debtor being unable to pay this money, in June last the premises were sold by the mortgagees for £350. Three houses at Short Heath belonging to the debtor were mortgaged for £97. The failure was attributed to bad trade. He was allowed to pass.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/8/1891

“At the Police Court, *William Benton*, landlord of the WOOLPACK INN, Short Heath, was summoned for keeping his house open during prohibited hours. On Sunday night the 2nd inst, Police-constable Dodge saw a girl come out of the house at twenty minutes to eleven o’clock with a jug of ale. On asking the landlady for an explanation, she said her husband had gone to the house of a neighbour named Taylor; and the girl, who was Taylor’s stepdaughter, said she had been sent by *Benton* for the ale. For the defence it was stated that when he went to Taylor’s the defendant was invited to stay for supper, and he asked the girl to fetch some ale. No money was paid for it, and Mr. R. A. Willcock, who appeared for the defendant, contended that there was no case to answer.

The Bench held that it was a proper case to be investigated, and considered that *Benton* has sailed very near the wind. The case was dismissed.”

1901 Census

Front Lane, Short Heath – WOOLPACK

[1] *Catherine Elwell* (63), widow, licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] George Elwell (43), son, tank maker, born Bilston:

1911 Census

Short Heath – WOOLPACK INN

[1] *Arthur Tew* (41), key smith (cabinet), born Short Heath;

[2] Betsy Tew (40), wife, married 19 years, assisting in business, born Bloxwich;

[3] Florence Tew (17), daughter, born Short Heath;

[4] Fred Tew (16), son, key smith, born Short Heath;

[5] Robert Tew (13), son, school, born Short Heath;

[6] Harry Tew (9), son, school, born Short Heath;

[7] Alice Tew (8), daughter, school, born Short Heath:

1939 Register

37, Coltham Road – WOOLPACK INN

[1] *Arthur Tew*, date of birth 20/11/1869, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Betsy Tew, dob 11/9/1870, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Birmingham Mail 2/1/1940

“Arthur Williams (aged 24), 92, Bloxwich Road, Short Heath, Willenhall, who is a soldier, was charged at a Willenhall special court today with unlawfully and maliciously shooting James W. H. Richards, haulage contractor of Short Heath, with intent to disable him, on December 29th. There was a similar charge against Williams in respect of Walter Smith, of Johnson Road, Short Heath, on the same day.

Mr. Richards, in evidence, said he was in Rough Wood with a Mr. *Tew*, who had the shooting rights, and Mr. Smith. Hearing shots, he and Smith went in the direction of the sound and saw a man come from behind a bush. He recognised him as prisoner, whom he had known all his life. He said to him, ‘What brings you here Arthur?’ and prisoner replied ‘Get back, Jim, or I’ll shoot.’ Witness could not recollect moving towards prisoner, but the gun was fired and he was struck in both legs. At the same time he noticed Smith, who was slightly at the rear, had also been hit. They were conveyed to a doctor’s surgery and their wounds were dressed.

Richards added that he had no reason to believe prisoner had anything against him. Neither he nor Smith had a gun, only Mr. *Tew*. Corroborative evidence was given by Smith and *Arthur Tew*, WOOLPACK INN, Coltham Road, Short Heath, owner of the shooting rights, who said he had not given permission to the prisoner to be on the land.

Supt. J. H. Davison said that at 8.30pm on Friday night he visited prisoner’s home, and Williams said: ‘If I speak candid, I was not responsible for my actions at the time I done it.’

Police-constable Baker said prisoner was conveyed to Willenhall police station, and when charged with shooting at Richards said: ‘I admit I shot, but with no intention of hurting anyone.’

When charged in respect of Smith he said: ‘You have just brought it back to me that Walter was there.’

Prisoner, who reserved his defence, was committed to Staffordshire Assizes, and bail was allowed, himself in £20 and one surety of a like amount.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/2/1940

“Arthur Williams (32), a soldier, committed from Willenhall on a charge of having shot at two men with a sporting gun with intent to disable them, was found guilty of unlawful wounding and bound over for two years.

In announcing his decision, the Judge described Williams – who was given an exemplary character from the army – as a facile liar, and advised him that if he ever got into trouble again, to consider very carefully whether the Judge would not like him much better if he told the truth. ‘You be careful in the future’, he added.

Williams said in evidence that he had had about four and a half pints of beer before he went shooting, and it might have excited him. He declared that he had had no intention of hurting the two men, who were his friends.

The Judge said: ‘Don’t drink so much beer while your stomach is empty’.”

Stan Furphy served in the army for 24 years.

He was married to Sigi.

See also the BRITANNIA, Upper Gornal, Sedgley.

Irene Southam was born c.1952.

See also BROWN JUG.

[2002]

Closed [2006]

Demolished [2011]

WORKERS REST

16, Upper Lichfield Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Aston Manor Brewing Co. (acquired in 1984)
Little Pub Co.

LICENSEES

Colin Heskin [1993]
John Denston [] – 1997)
Tommy Collins []

NOTES

It was originally the Dartmouth Conservative Club.

It opened as the NEW DARTMOUTH [1967]

It was renamed the GREEN PIG [1990]

It was renamed the KIPPER HOUSE [1993], [1997]

Closed [1998]

It was renamed WORKERS REST [2001]

Tommy Collins – see also NEW INN, Bilston.

A shooting took place outside here in July 2007. Three men were injured.

Express & Star 30/9/2013

“A man was today arrested on suspicion of attempted murder in connection with a double shooting and stabbing at a Willenhall pub six years ago. The 27-year-old was taken into custody in the early hours after detectives raided an address on Granville Street in Birmingham city centre. Three men aged 19, 24 and 27 were injured during the disorder at the WORKERS REST on Upper Lichfield Street in Willenhall on July 6, 2007. Two men were jailed for the attack in 2008. Anthony Hamilton and Michael Straker were jailed for a total of 20 years.

Fifty revellers were outside the pub at the time when Hamilton opened fire after an argument with Jamie Price and Shaun Oakley. The two men suffered only minor injuries but innocent bystander Daniel Jackson was left seriously injured after being shot in the neck while fleeing the onslaught. An angry mob chased Hamilton down and once they captured him he was stabbed twice, punched and kicked and left with a fractured skull. Hamilton, aged 20, of Hincks Road, Tettenhall, was given a 12-year sentence after pleading guilty to two attempted murders, GBH and possession of a firearm with intent. Straker, also aged 20, of Perry Avenue, Low Hill, Wolverhampton, was jailed for eight years after being found guilty after a trial of three woundings and a possession of a firearm.

Sentencing them at Birmingham Crown Court, Recorder of Birmingham Judge Frank Chapman said: ‘This should act as a clear warning to anyone who uses guns. Three men were injured and one, an innocent by-stander, seriously so.’ At the time, police

issued a no-tolerance warning to people who use guns to settle feuds.”

[2016]

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Alma Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Marsh [1860] – [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Alma Street

[1] *John Marsh* (47), hardware peicerer, (locksmith), born Willenhall;

[2] Catherine Marsh (40), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Amelia Marsh (14), daughter, scholar, born Little London;

[4] Abraham Arnold (22), boarder, builder, born Norton, Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/8/1861

“The following insolvents have filed their petitions to appear in the Insolvency Court, Wolverhampton, on Friday next.....

John Marsh, beerhouse keeper, Alma Street, Willenhall; debts £248 6s 9d; credits £16 2s 8d.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/8/1861

“In Wolverhampton County Court yesterday, the following insolvents came up and passed their final examination.....

John Marsh, beerhouse keeper, Alma Street, Willenhall, supported by Mr. Slater, and opposed by Mr. Stirk. Debts £248 6s 9d, credits £16 2s 8d.”

London Gazette 23/8/1861

“In the Matter of the Petition of *John Marsh*, formerly of Little London, Willenhall, Staffordshire, Journeyman Presser of Padlock Plates, Checks, and Rivets, and then and at present and for one year and seven months last past of Alma-street, Willenhall afore-said, Retail Brewer, Dealer in Tobacco, and Journeyman Presser of Padlock Plates, Checks, and Rivets, an Insolvent Debtor. Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, at Wolverhampton, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 30th of September next, at nine o’clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.”

Beerhouse - Unnamed

4, Bray Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

Old Park Brewery

LICENSEES

William Starkey [1860] – [1861]

George Bloore [1881]

John Arnold [1891]

Thomas Haddon [1901] – [1912]

NOTES

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

William Starkey, beer retailer, Bray Street. [1860], [1861]

1881 Census

4, Bray Street – beer shop

- [1] *George Bloore* (66), beer seller, born Longton, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Rosannah Bloore* (62), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Sarah Bloore* (7), granddaughter, scholar, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Turner* (22), servant, born Willenhall:

1891 Census

4, Bray Street

- [1] *John Arnold* (34), pad lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Jane Arnold* (53), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] *Samuel Arnold* (20), son, pad lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [4] *William Arnold* (18), son, pad lock maker, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Sarah Arnold* (14), daughter, born Willenhall:

Thomas Hadden = Thomas Haddon

1901 Census

4, Bray Street

- [1] *Thomas Haddon* (47), lock manufacturer, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Eliza Haddon* (49), wife, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Florence Haddon* (25), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Minnie Haddon* (21), daughter, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Albert Haddon* (18), son, born Willenhall;
- [6] *Horace Haddon* (16), son, born Willenhall:

Thomas Hadden, beer retailer, and rim and mortice lock maker (Saunders & Hadden), Stringes Lane, 4, Bray Street. [1904], [1912]

1911 Census

4, Bray Street

- [1] *Thomas Haddon* (57), lock manufacturer and beerhouse keeper, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Mary Haddon* (55), wife, married 9 years, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Thomas Albert Haddon* (28), son, bookkeeper (for above), born Willenhall;
- [4] *Florence Eynon* (21), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

South Staffordshire Times 14/2/1920

“County Licensing Sessions.....

Superintendent Higgs, in his report, stated that the licensing justices had visited the Willenhall district, and viewed certain houses under the Redundancy Act, and recommended the following be scheduled, and heard at the adjourned Licensing Sessions: GEORGE AND DRAGON, Cannon Street; HADDON’S Beerhouse, Bray Street; BUTCHERS ARMS, Wolverhampton Street; and the BEEHIVE, Little London.”

South Staffordshire Times 6/3/1920

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

HADDON’S Beerhouse, Bray Street, Willenhall, was also recommended on ground of redundancy, Mr. Pritchard appeared to support the application for the renewal of the license on behalf of the tenant and the owners, R. A. Haddon[?] Ltd., the Old Park Brewery.....

Decision in each case was reserved.”

South Staffordshire Times 17/7/1920

“The following licenses were refused at the principal meeting of the compensation authority for the county held at Stafford on Thursday.....

HADDON’S Beerhouse, Willenhall.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/12/1920

“An adjourned supplemental meeting of the County Licensing Committee, acting as Compensation Authority, was held at the

County Buildings, Stafford, on Saturday. Lord Hatherton presiding.

The following sums were approved by the Committee as compensation cases where the licenses have not been renewed.....

HADDON'S BEERHOUSE, Willenhall, beerhouse, ante 1869, £1,100.....”

South Staffordshire Times 8/1/1921

“The Stafford County Licensing Committee on Tuesday reported having fixed compensation for 17 houses. Among these are HADDON'S Beerhouse, Willenhall, £2,000; and the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Willenhall.”

Beerhouse – Unnamed

Clothier Street, Little London, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Jackson [1849] – [1861]

Thomas Ferreday [1864] – [1865]

NOTES

John Jackson, beer retailer, Little London. [1849], [1850], [1860]

John Jackson, retailer of beer, Little London. [1850], [1851]

1861 Census

Clothier Street

[1] *John Jackson* (45), publican and keysmith, born Willenhall;

[2] Elizabeth Jackson (39), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Sarah Jackson (18), daughter, bar maid, born Willenhall;

[4] William Jackson (10), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] Henry Jackson (7), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] Amy Jackson (3), daughter, born Willenhall;

[7] Joseph Atkins (23), lodger, keysmith, born Coventry:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/7/1861 - Advert

“Willenhall, Staffordshire. A Very Desirable Freehold Public House and Building Land, situate in Clothier Street, and at the corner of Little Clothier Street, Little London, Willenhall, in the occupation of Mr. *John Jackson*.

H. W. Greader will Sell by auction, at the PLOUGH INN, Stafford Street, Willenhall, on Friday, the 12th day of July, 1861, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read:

Lot 1. All that large and conveniently-arranged Retail BEER HOUSE with large Tap Room, substantially fitted up with screens and seating; two large Parlours, Bar, four Bed Rooms, excellent Cellars, Brewhouse, large Workshop, and other Out-Offices, good Open Yard, with Carriage Entrance into Little Clothier Street, and all in thorough repair, in a commanding situation, surrounded by Collieries and ironworks.

Lot 2. A Plot of Freehold Building Land, adjoining lot 1, having a frontage of 7 yards to Clothier Street, 16 yards in depth, and containing 112 square yards, sufficient for the erection of two houses.

Lot 3. A Plot of Freehold Land, adjoining lot 1, having a frontage of 10 yards 2 feet to Little Clothier Street, 16 yards in depth, and containing 177 square yards.

For further particulars apply to Foster Gough, Esq., Solicitor, King Street, Wolverhampton; or to the Auctioneer, Cross Street, Willenhall.”

Beerhouse – Unnamed

19, Stafford Street, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Griffiths [1871] – [1872]

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/11/1870

“*William Griffiths*, Stafford Street, was fined 5s and costs, for exposing for sale a bottle of Petroleum not being labelled according to Act of Parliament.”

1871 Census

19, Stafford Street

[1] *William Griffiths* (38), general dealer, beer seller, oil dealer and furniture dealer, born Bilston;

[2] Caroline Griffiths (40), wife, born Worcester;

[3] Alfred E. W. Griffiths (12), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[4] Thomas Griffiths (5), son, scholar, born Willenhall;

[5] Frances A. Griffiths (8), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall;

[6] Pauline Griffiths (2), daughter, scholar, born Willenhall:

London Gazette 20/8/1872

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869.

In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *William Griffiths*, of Stafford-street, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, Oil and General Dealer and Beerhouse Keeper.

Notice is hereby given, that a Second General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. George Cresswell, Solicitor, No.161, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton aforesaid, on the 21st day of August, 1872, at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 14th day of August, 1872.

Geo. Cresswell, No.161, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton, Attorney for the said *William Griffiths*.”

Beerhouse – Unnamed

Sandbeds, Lane Head, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Fellows [1860] – [1861]

NOTES

Fellows Thomas, beer retailer, Lane Head. [1860]

London Gazette 9/11/1860

“Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Wolverhampton, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 26th day of November instant, at nine o'clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.

In the Matter of the Petition of *Thomas Fellows* the elder, now and for three months last past residing at the Sand Beds, Willenhall, in the county of Stafford, a Labourer, dealing in Huckstery Goods, licensed to sell Tobacco, and Managing a Public-house for *Thomas Fellows* the younger, previously and for eighteen months residing at Lane-head, Willenhall aforesaid, a Labourer, and dealing in Huckstery Goods, Tea and Tobacco, previously of Bentley Hay, in the said county of Stafford, a Furnace-man and Stocktaker, and also dealing in Huckstery Goods.”

1861 Census

Sandbeds

[1] *Thomas Fellows* (58), publican and miner, born Princes End;

- [2] Mary Fellows (60), wife, born Wednesbury;
[3] Martha Fellows (20), daughter, employed at home, born Bentley Hay;
[4] Joseph Fellows (18), son, employed at home, born Bentley Hay:

Beerhouse – Unnamed

New Invention, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Jordan [1866]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/2/1866

“At the Police Court, Sarah Edwards, a married woman, was charged with stealing a pair of boots, the property of *John Jordan*, publican, of the New Invention. The boots were taken from under a table or screen in the house, and pawned by the prisoner. She now pleaded guilty to the charge, and nothing further being known about her, she was sentenced to the lenient punishment of fourteen days’ imprisonment.”

Beerhouse – Unnamed

Portobello, WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Cotton [1850] – [1851]

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1850

“*John Cotton*, beershop keeper, of Portobello, near Willenhall, charged with keeping his house open later than eleven o’clock on the night of Saturday, the 5th instant, was fined 20s and costs. Upon hearing this decision the defendant became exceedingly angry, observing ‘that it was a very straightforward way of robbing him’ and was ‘most rascally’ and adding as he left the bar, that ‘if there was any one to receive the money let them follow him’. The bench desired that the defendant might be recalled, when Mr. Leigh admonished him for his conduct, and fined him 40s instead of 20s. This intimation on the part of the bench checked any further ebullition of the defendant’s temper, and he quietly paid the increased fine and costs, amounting to £2 11s 6d, without indulging in any more strong epithets.”

Birmingham Journal 3/8/1850 - Advert

“Freehold Messuages and Premises, at Portobello, Willenhall.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. William Parkes, (under Powers of Sale), at the house of Mr. Greader, the ALBION INN, Willenhall, on Friday, the 16th day of August, 1850, at five o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then and there to be produced.

All that Messuage or Dwelling House, now used as a Public House, with the Stable and Out-buildings thereto belonging, now in the occupation of Mr. *John Cotton*, situate at Portobello aforesaid. And also all those Two other Messuages adjoining the above.....”

Staffordshire 14/6/1851

“On Wednesday last, at the Public Office four public-house keepers, viz., Stephen Oliver, Wolverhampton, Thomas Grainger, *John Cotton*, Portobello, and Isaiah Cartwright, Willenhall, were each convicted in the mitigated penalty of £50 for mixing grains

of paradise in their brewings of ale. The defendants mostly pleaded ignorance of the fact, having entrusted the management to their servants. The Bench recommended the Board of Customs to further mitigate the penalties.”

Beerhouse – Unnamed

WILLENHALL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

David Read [1866]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/8/1866

“Permitting Gambling. *David Read*, beerhouse keeper, Willenhall, was charged before the Magistrates, on Monday, with this offence. The principal witness was George Abbot, a keysmith, residing in Church Street, Willenhall, who stated that on Tuesday morning, the 31st of July, he was at defendant’s beerhouse. He ‘pitched’ with *Read* for a pint of ale, and lost it. He then went home to have his dinner, and returned to defendant’s house in the afternoon. There were six or seven people there then, and they all began playing at ‘nick and brick’ for a quart of ale each time. Witness won the last game. This irritated the defendant, who called witness by a nasty expression, and said any man in the house could leather him. A collier who was in the house then set upon witness, and the others also struck and punched him several times, and *Read* said it served him right. This was not the first time that witness and others had gambled in *Read*’s house. The defendant could not rebut the witness’s testimony, and he was fined 10s and costs.”