



THE PARAGON

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OLD PUBLIC HOUSES OF THE WOODHEAD MOORS

We are indebted to Barry Needle for his research and permission to use extracts from his work now in our archive on the Moor's Inns & Public Houses

Editor's Note :- Barry has allowed us to use the material from his research document which he admits is 'still ongoing'.

Part 2 - Approaching Saltersbrook

The Quiet Shepherd - SK 055986

The NW Derbyshire Shepherds Society lists Joseph Brownhill and William Newton as members in 1807 living at the adjacent Hollins. Piggot and Company Commercial directory Cheshire 1834, lists Joshua Brownhill at The Hollins. The 1872 OS map records the Quiet Shepherd as a PH. This was opposite the present Torside Reservoir embankment and is now the Quiet Shepherd Farm, closed as an Inn by 1930. John Hawksworth is listed for 1937 at the Quiet Shepherd Farm.

Commercial Inn (Crowden) - SK070992

The Inn was situated on the old road through the village on the 1872 OS map and is now demolished. It was shown on a picture of Crowden Village taken around 1905



The George and Dragon (Woodhead) - SK 090998

Newspaper cuttings indicate that it goes back to around 1640. At some time known as the Ropes and Rubbers, it was situated on the south side of the present A628 Woodhead Road at the bottom of the Holme Moss road, which crossed the River Etherow at Entre Clough Bridge before the Woodhead Reservoir was built. There was a Toll Gate nearby. The walls were whitewashed, and the interior had 'ancient objects' to blend in harmony with 'modern additions.'



Piggot and Company Commercial Directory for Cheshire 1834 listed Thomas Bower at the Inn. It also lists Mary Newton at the Rose and Crown Woodhead, but I have no other reference to this Inn, or where it may have been. (There is a possibility of a name change taking place at some time or perhaps it refers to the Crown Inn that was above the old Woodhead Station.)

The following incident from 'Hutchinson's Tour thro' the High Peak of Derbyshire' 1809 (still obtainable in reprint,) is most likely to have taken place at the George and Dragon after his party descended off the Bleaklow moors on horseback. 'We rejoiced once more to see the smoke of a chimney, and stopped at a public house belonging to one Thomas Howard at Woodhead. The landlord was found in the place he is generally to be met with; sitting in a corner smoking his pipe, with his night cap on'. Though the landlord agreed to them sleeping in the Inn overnight, his wife said no. 'It seemed in vain, for a long time, to enforce our wet and unpleasant situation. At length her mild heart consented to let just me and the little boy stay all night, but this we would not accept.' The party then set

stay all night, but this we would not accept.' The party then set off a further 8 miles to Mottram. (He later opened an action against the Inn, and was subsequently awarded £5, a large sum in 1806.) Hutchinson changed a former verse he had recorded 'welcome to an Inn' to the following.

*The scene is chang'd alas! to dire complaint,
No welcome here, tho' weary, wet, or faint.
In vain expect; the Inn will not afford
One soft repose, nor yet the frugal board.*

*Illusive curling smoke, delude no more,
My steps to yon inhospitable door;
For there the host, and hostess too, within
Deny the pleasing welcome at an Inn.*

There is an interesting record of a char-a-banc fatality on the 5th June 1920. A party of 27 passengers had alighted at the George and Dragon, to enable vehicle repairs after breaking down. As the party were on the return journey, one of the passengers fell out and received fatal injuries.

An Edward Bagshaw (born in 1905), later ran the George and Dragon with his wife Annie. Opposite the hostelry was a stone decorated with the skull and crossbones, the work of Eddie Bagshaw son of the landlady.

Sometimes when the Woodhead road was blocked by snow, travellers often took refuge here. A report by someone who had lived in the area for 69 years, said they were packed like sardines and sleeping on the billiard table'. In a Rotherham Council booklet, a John Hobson of Dodworth recorded that on December 13th 1726 the weather was so bad that several travellers had perished on the moors above Woodhead. Later when coaches began running, if they became stuck in the snow, the passengers would be expected to alight and help in pushing the coach through the drifts.

The Glossop Chronicle of 28th February 1958 recorded that over 100 vehicles were stranded at the Hotel, drivers having to stay or struggle six miles to Tintwistle on foot. Land Lady Annie Bagshaw and helpers were kept busy providing food. Whilst the hotel was cut off, 50 loaves, 9lb of bacon, 6 dozen eggs, 4lbs of butter and nearly a sack of potatoes were supplied to those who stayed.

At some stage the George and Dragon was reported to have a Pianola which played itself. Wilfred Pickles hosted one of his radio programmes from here too.

Mr Anthony Wright, Glossop & District Heritage Trust, said his parents had their wedding reception at the George and Dragon and Mrs Bradshaw the landlady was very well known locally. The Inn which closed in 1961 was demolished by the water board soon after.

Tollemache Arms - (SE097006 south side of road.)

The Tollemache Arms was situated a short distance up the Holme Moss road serving travellers to and from Huddersfield.

The land on the north side of the River Etherow belonged to the Tollemache family who had been landowners in the area for a considerable length of time. In 1902 Lord Tollemache was said to have re-named a 'Crown Poie' in Mottram originally erected in 1760 to commemorate George III. The new one was to commemorate the coronation of Edward VII.

It was renamed from Eyden Booth Farm to the Tollemache Arms in the 1871 Census by John Newton. He was listed as the licensed victualler and farmer of 152 acres. (It was shown as the Tollemache Arms on the 1854 OS map.)

From 'Picturesque Cheshire' by T A Coward 1903, a snippet recorded 'Turning up the Huddersfield Road, soon after reaching the Tollemache Arms, once a coaching Inn now a temperance hotel', presumably selling non-alcoholic drinks such as ginger beer.

The Angel Inn - SK 096999 south side A628.

A William Bower was a farmer in the 1841 Census. His farm became the Angel Inn in the next Census. The Inn was situated on the south side of the A628 just a short distance from the George and Dragon, East of the Nine Arches Bridge.

The Manchester and Salter's Brook Turnpike Trust had a committee meeting on the 30th October 1848 at the Inn, to discuss the removal of the Woodhead and Longside toll gates.

A further reference I have found, is a report of a case brought before the magistrates of Hyde against a man driving a horse and trap at a furious pace (reported to be 15 to 16 mph). Witness reported the defendant shouting at the horse thrashing it with a whip and driving in a reckless manner as he was trying to pass a waggonette carrying several people who were seen to be hanging on to the sides. Constable Dudley proceeded to the Angel Inn after the report of an accident involving the two conveyances. Defendant was eventually fined 20s. The incident took place on Sunday 12th May 1901.

In the severe winter of 1940, the Glossop Chronicle 2nd February said it was thought vehicles were stranded at the Inn, but no-one could reach it to confirm.

Crown Inn - SK 113999

Situated above the entrance to the Woodhead Tunnel, it was marked on the 1924 OS map, but was also known as the Station Inn after the Woodhead line was built. (In 1825 the eminent engineer Thomas Telford had considering a new canal from Sheffield to Manchester, passing through Penistone, Woodhead and the Longendale valley, according to John Ness Dransfield 1906.) In 1813 William Chapman also planned a route from Sheffield to Manchester via the Hope valley. (For further interesting reading refer to railways in the Peak District by Christopher P Nicholson and Peter Barnes.)

There is said to be a photograph of the Inn in Greater Manchester County Record Office, by the Clarion Cycling Club, year not known but I have been unable to trace it. When there was a regular bus service between Sheffield and Manchester, the Inn was listed as a fare stop.

Old Salter's Brook PH - SK 138999

This was an old Inn dating back to about 1795 on the old packhorse route, and the ruins are still to be seen by the old stone bridge built in the first half of the 18th century (which would itself have replaced earlier wooden bridges). The stone bridge has been recently re-built by South Yorkshire County Council. It is a narrow bridge where there was probably a toll bar to control the passing trade. A reference I found said it closed around 1852 but it's license may have expired earlier since the Millar's Arms was built around 1830. The house was probably demolished by Manchester Corporation Water Works along with the Millar's Arms about 1920. There was a warehouse at Salter's Brook (either here or opposite the

Millar's Arms just up the road), which acted as a 'halfway house' where produce was stored before being collected for onward distribution.



Old Saiter's Brook was originally known as the House of Thomas Taylor of Saiter's Brook. It is likely to have provided shelter and sold beers and ales brewed on the premises from its early days before it obtained a licence. There is a record of Edward Taylor (b.1775 in Saiter's Brook) who married Sarah Armitage (b.1784 in Langsett). They had a daughter Mary Taylor Armitage (b. 1812, m. 1834, d. 1857). In 1822 the Licence was still owned by Thomas Taylor and was kept and owned by the Taylor family for many years.

Fred Hepworth wrote an article in S&DHS Newsletter No 6 describing its early days. By 1807 Old Saiter's Brook had become a regular meeting place for the Shepherds Society who produced a set of Rules, a copy of which can be found in Sheffield Local Studies Library. It is still sold as a rare book. Some of the Societies rules are recorded in S&DHS Newsletter 14 Summer 1995.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

Editor's Note

Do you remember those halcyon days when it never seemed to rain and of course we were never bored. My days were spent down Hartley Brook near Ecclesfield or in Grenoside Woods with a bottle of water and jam sandwiches, Happy Days! This is an extract from Nellie Pickering's memoirs 'Water Under The Bridge'

The hot days of the month long school holidays were always full of activity and variety. A group of us children who lived in vicinity of our homes, would meet up and proceed into Bocking Wood by the war memorial, where we took over possession of the stream which runs through the wood, it being flanked by stones and boulders which we proceeded to place strategically to hold back the natural flow of the water, quite doleful in times of dry weather but more vigorous in the aftermath of a few rainy days. Inevitably there would be places where the stones allowed the water to flow between and once spotted these escape holes were sealed with sods of soil and grass or in extreme circumstances by a dough-like wad of mud, and behold for a while at least these precautions acted like the finger of the little Dutch boy who held back the raging waters of the dyke. This frenzied activity went on until pangs of lunchtime hunger were apparent - no elevenses served

here - and we would return, pack like, to our homes, secure in the knowledge that a hearty meal would appear on the table to assuage the appetite created by the hard work we had put in. Our parents had no worries for our safety and well-being whilst we were out on safari. How different from the worries and anxieties of today's parents.

An after lunch expedition consisted of a short walk to the crossing of the local works railway lines and up the steep hillside beyond for about half a mile to the frog ponds. We set off armed with sandwiches and home-made lemonade which were our victuals until tea time.

Beyond the railway lines there was a bridge spanning the river but we never dawdled at this point because there was a tumble down cottage where lived an elderly couple reputed, amongst us children, to be witches. Visible through the open door were cages of stuffed birds and animals which only consolidated the fact that we were in the presence of the unnatural, and it was with great haste that we circumnavigated the area and started the steep ascent up the hill.

There was a lovely big house nearby which at one time belonged to the manager of the local refractory brickworks and all the grounds were masses of mododendrons and many large statues of animals and birds made at the works which, to me were very beautiful and were an obvious indication of well-being and wealth.

But to proceed to the ponds. The steep climb was rewarded by the sight of one small and one large pond. Invariably other groups of children had beaten us to the area and were busy catching frog spawn in jam jars and the like or were tsking partly grown frogs from under the stones. Here, as in Bocking Wood we isolated parts of the pools to provide breeding grounds for future inhabitants and we dug and prodded for several hours.

Needless to say, our sandwiches and drinks did not survive until the appointed time for tea and were always eaten mid-afternoon out in the -fresh air. We then went back home for a more civilised tpa and related to our parents the affairs of the afternoon. The jars of frog spawn which we had carried home so very carefully never did materialise. I feel that as legs etc. began to develop one by one our grandad had something to do with the jars eventually disappearing from the window ledge of the cellar kitchen.

A further holiday venue was the Fox Glen at Deepcar. The local council did a very good job of keeping the area in first class condition and children in their masses invaded the Glen every day of the school holidays. It boasted a shop where sweets, ice cream and pop could be purchased, a seesaw, swings, a sandpit, a large flat area for ball games etc. and paddling pools for babies and small children, and at the west end of the Glen a large bathing pool for older children and adults. As a child this pool took on the proportions of an Olympic pool but no Olympic pool was ever so well inhabited as the one in the Glen during school holidays. It was at this pool that one fine and sunny day I almost met a very stinky end - or so it seemed at the time. Standing by the edge of the water I was jostled by a gang of youths enjoying a friendly fight and I landed in the deep end. I was terrified and was fished out dripping from head to toe and I think my speed in running home would have qualified me for the Olympics. Ever since then I have been frightened of any expanse of water - a good old paddle at the seaside has been sufficient for me - and still is.

From our Special Correspondent

The Sheffield Independent,
AND YORKSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE ADVERTISER.

Sunday, 27 July 1833, Page 4.

YORKSHIRE ASSIZES.

CROWN COURT.

SATURDAY.

Joshua Froggatt and Thomas Richardson were charged with stealing a horse and mare, the property of Mr. John Brammell, of Bolsterstone, near Sheffield. Richardson pleaded guilty, and Froggatt not guilty. Mr. Dundas and Mr. Baines were counsel for the prosecution, and Mr. Cottingham for the prisoners. The circumstances of the case were these:—The prosecutor is a farmer and publican. On Saturday, the 29th of June last, the horse and mare were in a field, from which they were stolen during that night. They were traced to the Red Lion Inn, at Nether Broughton, in Leicestershire, where the prisoners were found with the horses. The prisoner Froggatt, on seeing the prosecutor, ran across a field and endeavoured to escape; he was, however, pursued and secured. The prisoners were also proved to have been together near the prosecutor's field on the night of the robbery. Froggatt was found Guilty, and they were both sentenced to be Transported for Life.

From our Special Correspondent

Kent and Derwent Rivers.

SHEFFIELD, SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1834.

"A Case of great Distress.—A family of the name of Charlesworth, in the township of Bolsterstone, has for some time been labouring under a most malignant Typhus fever. The father and mother are now sick, and no less than *four of their children* have fallen victims to the disease within a short time.—What adds to their distress, the fever is considered so infectious, that scarcely any one can be persuaded to come near them. Dr. Younge, from Sheffield, and an apothecary from Penistone, have kindly attended them; but the sufferers are very poor, and, with their surviving children, must want many comforts which their situation requires, unless the humane and charitable public can be prevailed upon to render them some assistance. A subscription has been set on foot amongst their neighbours, but it is not likely to be at all adequate to their necessities. Two poor women, also, who have attended on another family afflicted with the fever, have since been taken ill; and it is hoped that the subscription raised will afford a small sum for their relief also. Any sum, however small, will be thankfully received for the sufferers *Mr. Leader's, Angel Street:—It is necessary to add, that relief, to be efficient, must be prompt.*

"From the Rev. W. IAVING, Curate of Bolsterstone."
"Feb. 9, 1834."



These photographs of ornaments recently brought into our museum and generously donated by Mr Marsh.

Were these ornaments meant for the dressing table or merely 'Souvenirs from Stockbridge', sold by J Web & Co., Manchester Road.

Programme of Events — 2019

August 8th	Evacuees at Greenmoor	Brian Robinson
September 12th	A look at Local Names	Basil Spooner
October 15th (TUES)	.Pie & Pea Supper with Talk	Basil Spooner
November 14th	The History of Wentworth Woodhouse	Mel Jones
December 12th	Carol Supper	Members Only

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