



RYDE SOCIAL HERITAGE GROUP

Beyond the Graves

Volume 17: Number 4: October 2022

ONE FOR THE ROAD?

REVISITING SOME PUBS & BREWERIES IN RYDE OVER THE YEARS

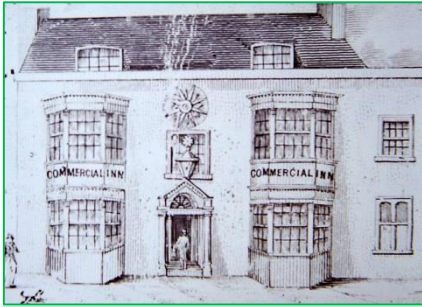
For this Magazine some dates and information come from 'Ryde Pubs' by Tony Gale, published by the RSHG in 2011, and also some references from Kevin Mitchell's 'Ryde Pubs – An Illustrated History', 1st published by Kena Publishing in 1996. Thank you to both authors.

IW Observer 17 September 1853

Before Dr. Lind – Elizabeth West, (a strumpet) was charged with stealing a pair of boots from the shop of Mr. Jackman, High Street, Ryde. Information was given to the police, who, with great dexterity, traced the party to the "Vauxhall" at the Fountain Inn, in Player Street, with the boots on, dancing. Committed for trial to the Quarter Sessions on the 18th of October.

IW Observer 27 December 1862

Police Court - A female bacchanal named Carr was brought up in custody and charged with being drunk and incapable. PC Knight stated that on the afternoon of Wednesday last, the prisoner was in the street drunk with a crowd of people round her. She was taken into custody. Carr was fined 5s. and 7s.6d. costs and allowed a week to pay it in, and in default to be put into the stocks for 6 hours.



Images of the Star - Roy Brinton Collection
Modern image of the Star RSHG



**EXTRA ACCOMMODATION
BETWEEN RYDE AND NEWPORT.**
THE PUBLIC are respectfully informed that on and after June 5th, the splendid NEW OMNIBUS, "THE STAR,"
Will commence running for the Season. She will start from Cluitt's Original Eating House (nearly opposite the Pier Gates) at 10.15 a.m., calling at the Thatched House Tavern, Cross Street, and the Star Inn, High Street, Ryde, at 10.30 a.m., to the Wheat Sheaf Inn and the White Swan Inn, Newport, returning at 4.30 p.m.
Fares:—Double Journey, 1s. 6d.; Single ditto, 1s.

IW Observer 8 July 1854



Photos of the Bow Bars, Union Street, Roy Brinton Collection.

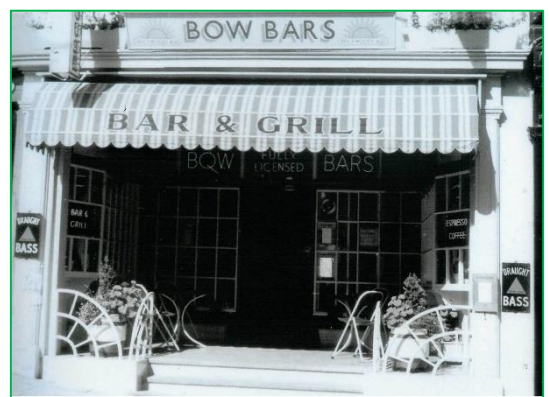
First licenced in 1871 it went through several name changes, including Havannah and Bodega, becoming the Bow Bars after refurbishment in the 1960's. The licensee was a cousin of Paul McCartney. He and a brother came to Ryde in August 1960 and the following summer another brother, Mike, worked at the Bow Bars. It is said that when Paul talked about his boat trip to Ryde with John Lennon, he took Ryde literally, and so 'A Ticket to Ride' was created.

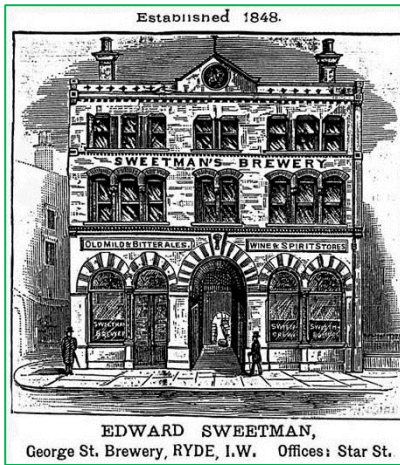
DRUNKENNESS.
Charles Crabb, Belvedere Street, labourer, was charged with being drunk in Star Street, on December 17th.—Defendant pleaded not guilty.—P.C. Rees said that on the day in question, at 10.35 p.m., he saw defendant on his hands and knees on the pavement in Star Street. He was very drunk, and "had not a leg to stand on." He was quiet, and the only words he said were, "I have had too much."—Defendant said he fell down and injured his head.—Fined 2s 6d and 5s costs.

IW Observer 7 January 1899

IW Observer 8 September 1900

SENT BACK.
John Reynolds, a stoker on H.M.S Duke of Wellington, pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct on Sunday night. P.S. Watson said that after 10 o'clock on Sunday night defendant, who was very drunk, was trying to get into the Star Hotel. On being cautioned, he said he had nowhere to go, and should stay out as long as he liked. He persisted in following witness and used such bad language that he had to be locked up. As defendant had been imprisoned for one night, he was discharged on promising to rejoin his ship immediately.

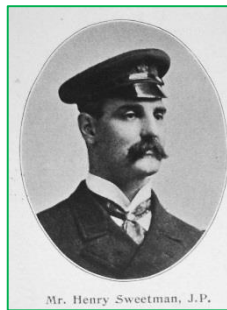




Sweetman Advert 1894
Sweetman – owners and workers
Tony Gale Collection



Mr. Charles Sweetman.



Mr. Henry Sweetman, J.P.

IW Observer 21 December 1867

Public House to be let – The old established house, Royal Albert, Warwick-street, Ryde, to be let, with immediate possession. For particulars enquire at the Eagle Brewery, Ryde, or at the Royal Albert, Warwick-street, Ryde.



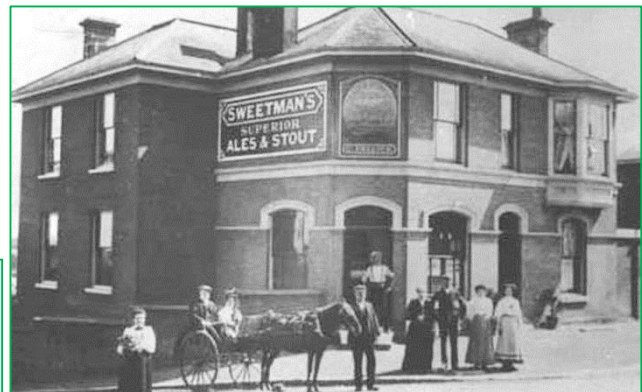
The Eagle Brewery in Star Street, owned by the Lake's and bought by Sweetman in 1877. Photo Roy Brinton Collection.

MILD AND PALE ALE BREWERY,
Opposite the "Prince of Wales,"
No. 12½, HIGH STREET, RYDE.
JAMES LAKE respectfully invites Private Families, and the Public generally, to a trial of his very Superior Mild and Brilliant Ales at 10d. and 1s. per gallon, which he flatters himself are not equalled in quality by any House in the Trade.
London and Dublin Stout. Pale and Scotch Ales. Prime Old Strong Beer, highly recommended.

Advert IW Observer 7 April 1855

The IW Observer, 18 March 1899, reported on the landlady of the Lake Huron, Haylands being summoned for being drunk on licensed premises.

PC Ryall witnessed the landlady holding onto the bar with both hands, then she staggered across to the Smoking Room. In her defence it was stated she suffered from heart disease and had taken some brandy which overcame her. It was suggested that the licence be transferred to one of her sons. She was fined 5s and costs.



Lake Huron, Upton Road, previously The Eclipse, purchased by Sweetman in 1877.

Tony Gale Collection.

IW Observer 9 January 1875

Henry Guy, of Ryde, was charged with having been drunk, and refusing to quit licensed premises. —On the 26th ult. P.C. Gilbert was sent for by the landlord of the Eclipse Inn, Haylands, and on arrival there he found defendant drunk. He had his face cut, and when requested refused to leave the premises. Ultimately, however, he did leave.—The Bench inflicted a fine of 20s., and 7s. 6d. costs, with the alternative of three weeks' hard labour.—The money was paid.

Swanmore Inn [previously The Steamboat] Roy Brinton Collection



Mrs Curtis, daughter of Mrs Pope [who had recently died at an advanced age after running the Swanmore Inn for over 25 years] applied to have the license transferred to her. Two objections were made because she had no male support at the Inn. It was generally felt by many, including the Bench and the Chief Constable, that 'a woman was not altogether satisfactory as an innkeeper'. However, as Mrs Curtis was a woman of tact and was businesslike they were willing to make an exception in this case. Extracted from the IW Observer 9 February 1907.



The Black Horse Inn on the corner of George Street and Castle Street traded until 1971.

Photo Roy Brinton Collection
Modern photo RSHG

IW Times 24 August 1967

Landlady at the "Black Horse" public house at George Street for the past 30 years, Mrs. May Tappin retired yesterday. She and her husband will live in a council flat at Bettsworth Road. She and her first husband took over the house in 1937, and when he died in 1958, Mrs. Tappin assumed the licence before marrying her brother-in-law. There was a farewell party at the pub.

IW Observer 20 September 1862

On Monday evening the owners of the *Amazon* and *Marina* entertained their crews and their wives and sweethearts to an excellent dinner and dance at the Black Horse Inn, Ryde; and nothing was wanting to ensure the comfort of all present, and to promote their happiness. The dinner was served up in a first-rate manner by Mrs. Brading, (daughter of the venerable Host of the Black Horse), and after ample justice had been done to the viands, the room was cleared for the dance.

The IW Observer, 25 March 1865, reported the death of the landlady, Mrs Sophia Wearn, aged 82, after 60 years at the Black Horse, giving up just a year previously. She left 10 children, 40 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

Albion Inn, Newport Street, formerly the Pensioner. During WW1 it had a reputation as a resort of prostitutes.

It was demolished in the 1970's.

Photo Roy Brinton Collection

Advert IW Observer 1 July 1899

ALBION INN,
NEWPORT ROAD, RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.
JOHN WILLIAM STRATTON respectfully informs his numerous Friends and the Public generally, that he has **OPENED** the above House to Supply the Public with Genuine Spirits, Home-brewed Ales and London Stout.
WELL-AIRED BEDS, &c., &c.



IW Observer 22 January 1859

IW Observer 9 February 1918

Licensing Sessions – The Military Authorities placed the Albion Inn, Newport Street, "out of bounds" to soldiers on and since 27th September, 1917.

IW Observer 3 June 1922

At a meeting of the Hampshire Licensing Committee, the license for consideration in Ryde, of the "Albion Inn," Newport-street, the owners of which were Messrs Mew Langton & Co., the tenant Thomas William Whitter. It was stated that the house was in a back street, and not necessary for the wants of the district. The license was refused.

Isle of Wight Observer 5 March 1864

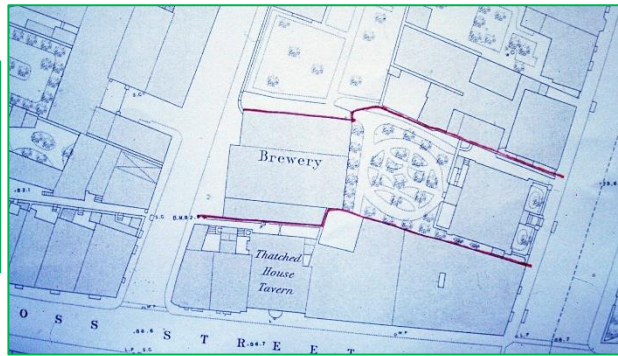
Anglesea Tavern - The usual harmonic dinner took place on Thursday evening, nearly 50 persons having sat down to an excellent repast, served up in Host Tarver's usual style. A very happy and harmonious evening was passed.

The IW Observer, 2 May 1868, reported the death of William Tarver, of the Anglesea Tavern, after a long and painful illness, in his 62nd year.

Photo Roy Brinton Collection, when the pub was owned by Longs, who purchased it in 1921.



BILLIARDS.
THATCHED HOUSE TAVERN,
 CROSS STREET, RYDE.
MRS. PARSONS respectfully informs her Friends and the Public that she has fitted up a Room with a full-sized BILLIARD TABLE, and solicits a share of their favours.
 Wines, Spirits, London Stout, Ales, Cigars, &c.,
 Of the best quality, on reasonable terms.
NEWPORT RIVER OYSTERS.



Map showing the location of John Cooper's Brewery, between George Street [on the right] and Union Road, and also the site of the 'Thatched House Tavern', facing Cross Street.
 Roy Brinton Collection.

IW Observer 20 August 1859

Cricket at Ryde House Park – After the completion of the match the party adjourned to the Thatched House Tavern, Cross Street, where Mine Host Parsons had a first-rate spread, which was done justice to in the manner that cricketers usually do. Songs and toasts went around.

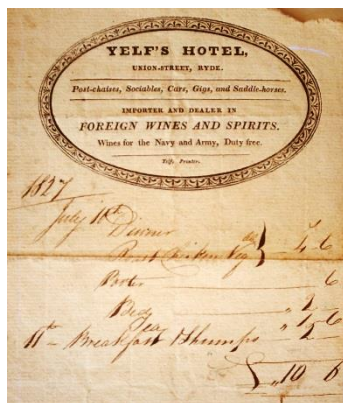
[Frederick Parsons' mother, Dorothy, ran the licensed Cluitt Tea Rooms in the 'Original Inn' on the Esplanade, demolished in 1894 and the 'King Lud' built]



Remains of the Brewery in Union Road.
 Roy Brinton Collection.

COOPER'S BREWERY, RYDE, I.W.
M. G. RIDDETT has received instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. John Cooper to **SELL by AUCTION**, on **WEDNESDAY, January 10, 1866**, at 11 o'clock punctually (on account of the number of Lots), the whole of the valuable Fixed and Moveable **BREWERY PLANT**, including a 24-barrel dome and pan copper nearly new, 11-quarter mash tun with iron false bottom, hop back with ditto, under back, coolers and working squares, liquor and wort pumps and pipes, 11 store vats from 150 barrels to 1,000 gallons, about 250 casks varying from puncheons to 4½ gallons, malt crusher with horse-wheel, malt screen, sacks, measures and scoops, two carts, dray, pony carriage, two sets pony harness, two sets cart ditto, trucks, ladders, &c. The **OFFICE FURNITURE**, and about 1,000 gallons of **MILD and OLD ALE**.
 May be viewed two days previous. Catalogues to be had one week prior to the Sale, at the Auctioneer's Offices, Ryde, or post free on application.

IW Observer 15 December 1865



When Union Street was first laid out, in 1801, brewer John Cooper built a large Hotel, called the 'Ryde Hotel'. It became 'Yelf's Hotel' when sold to Robert Yelf. Bill dated 10 July 1827, dinner, bed and breakfast, including shrimps, 10s 6d. RSHG.

IW Observer 10 September 1881

NOTICE.
VISITORS and Commercial Gentlemen will meet with every accommodation, at strictly **Moderate Charges**, at
THE TURK'S HEAD HOTEL,
COLONNADE, RYDE,
A FEW MINUTES' WALK FROM THE PIER.
JOHN AYLES, Proprietor.

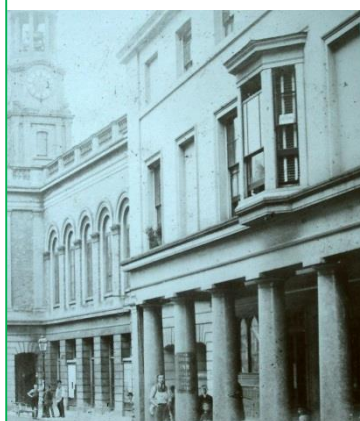
IW Observer 6 October 1860

What is called a "rearing" supper, was given at the Turks Head Inn, Arthur Legge, proprietor, on Friday evening, the 28th ult., by Dr. Mark Brown to the workmen of Mr. Jolliffe, builder, who have been employed in altering and extending the residence of that gentleman. The repast was the renowned "Old English" roast beef and plum pudding, and near upon 50 sat down to partake of it, nor did they rise without expressing their satisfaction with the quality and excellent manner in which it was laid upon the table. Mr. Jolliffe presided and after the cloth was removed, song and toast went merrily round until 1 o'clock.

Back in 1819 the premises occupied by the 'Turk's Head' had been used by the Baptists for worship. Some, as late as 1899, deplored it had become a pub.

In their 10 September 1881 issue the IW Observer carried an advert for the auction at Marvins. Lot 1 was the Colonnade, Lind Street, which included the 'Turk's Head', leased by E Sweetman at a yearly rent of £62.

Photo Roy Brinton Collection



The Turk's Head, at one end of the Colonnade, Lind Street, which became a Mew Langton Pub in 1921 and closed in 1972. Kevin Mitchell Collection.

The IW Observer reported, 17 December 1879, on the court case of Charles Turtle, dyer of Church Lane. He was drunk and disorderly at the 'Turk's Head' on the previous Monday, and refused to leave when requested by PC Martin. Turtle had been fighting so landlord John Hayles sent for the police. The Mayor dismissed the case, implying Hayles should have dealt with it himself.

Fountain Inn, Player Street, which closed in 1978. Roy Brinton Collection.



IW Observer 8 January 1870

Beershop – Joseph Coates, of the Fountain inn, Player-street, was summoned for selling beer during the hours of Divine Service. Fined 1s., and costs.

IW Observer 28 November 1885

A very pretty show of Homing Pigeons, by members of the IW Amateur Pigeon Society was held at the Fountain Inn, Player-street, Ryde, on the 11th inst. Mr. Samuel Butt awarded the prizes and gave general satisfaction.



IW Observer 12 March 1853 - An excellent dinner was served up at the Strand Tavern on Wednesday last, when upwards of thirty friends of "mine Host" sat down, and did ample justice to the viands. Loyal and National toasts and harmony terminated the evening.

IW Observer 9 January 1858 - Strand Tavern – The members of the club at this snug inn dined together on Wednesday evening in celebration of the New Year. Every arrangement gave satisfaction, and the evening was spent most harmoniously.

LIVERY STABLES TO LET.—The Strand Mews, enquire at the "Strand Tavern," Ryde.

Advert IW Observer 13 October 1855

IW Observer 7 April 1860 - We hear that some dishonest scoundrel has stolen from a room in the Strand Tavern, a large piece of carpet. Whether the rogue wanted it for housekeeping purposes or for the marine store dealer is yet undiscovered. Most probably, from the number of thieving cases lately occurred, the police will ere long obtain some clue to the thieves.



Photos of the Strand Tavern:
Top Tony Gale Collection
Bottom and left RSHG

Extracted from the IW Observer 20 January 1917: Afternoon Party at the Melville Inn.

Joshua Shaw, landlord of the Inn owned by Mr Sprake of Chale, was summoned for selling intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours. Shaw pleaded not guilty, but admitted people were drinking. Two policemen had visited the Inn and found four men, one woman and the landlord inside. There were glasses of freshly drawn beer [still with heads on], glasses of whisky, gin and port wine. As the landlord had three previous convictions he was fined £1, which he paid, rather than 14 days imprisonment.

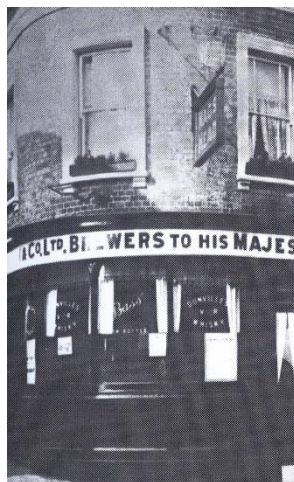
WANTED KNOWN THAT
SPRAKE'S (Star Brewery, CHALE,)
CELEBRATED BEERS
CAN NOW BE OBTAINED AT
Melville Inn, Ryde.

IW Observer 5 September 1908

MARVELLOUS VALUE.
WHISKIES.
Real Mountain Dew 4s.; half-bottle, 2s.
Choice "Old Vat" Scotch per bot., 7s. 6d.
Haigh and Haigh per bot., 4s.
Glenagarry per bot., 4s.
BRANDY.
Martell's per bot., 6s. 6d.
ALES & STOUT.
Bottled Ales and Stout per doz., 3s. 6d.
Special Stout per doz., 3s. 6d.
FREE HOUSE.
W. SHAW, MELVILLE INN,
MELVILLE STREET, RYDE.

IW Observer 22 May 1915

The Nags Head, in the High Street, was said to be the oldest pub in Ryde, dating from before 1664. It closed in 1967.
Photo RSHG
Match Box Holder Hilary Lloyd



With the Compliments of
Mr. & Mrs. P. J. SOUTHWELL
Nags Head Hotel
HIGH STREET, RYDE, I.O.W.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL
(CAUSE INSUFFICIENT LICENSES),
Edward Sweetman, Jun.,
ALE & PORTER BREWER,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT
(Late of the Castle Hotel, Ryde, and 14, John Street), has transferred the above office to the
Strand Hotel, Strand, Ryde,
Where he now Resides.
For the Sale, by Wholesale and Retail, of his
NOTED LOCAL HOME-BREWED OLD, MILD AND BITTER ALES, AND NOURISHING STOUT.
Also Wines, Spirits, and Cordials, all of Choice Quality, supplied to the Trade and Families in any quantity.
All size Casks and Jars, fitted with or without taps, kept in stock ready for immediate delivery.
Bottled Goods Stocked, Bass and Co's Ales, E. Sweetman, son's. Bitter and Dinner Ale, and Nourishing Stout, also Guinness's Stout.
LET 'EM ALL COME TO THE STRAND HOTEL. OLD FRIENDS,—DON'T FORGET, NEW ONES,—WELCOMED,
All the Best Brands, Wines and Spirits kept in stock.
PRICES REASONABLE

IW Observer, 9 November 1901

IW Times 24 December 1963 - Fifth Fine - PC Chivers said that in the course of persuading a woman to leave the Nag's Head, and escorting her outside, she threw things at him, fell into the road and screamed and shouted. Imposing a £5 fine upon the woman for her fifth offence of drunkenness, Ald. Bird told her "Any repetition of this sort of thing and you will not get away with a fine."

The IW Observer, 9 June 1881, reported on the court case of Rev. John Robinson, B.A., of St John's Park. PC Gibbs had found him the previous evening, at 9 pm, saying he was '*mad drunk and made use of very bad language*', shouting at Mrs Merest. The couple went indoors, but came out again, one with a lighted candle, the other with an umbrella, and continued their quarrel until nearly midnight. She ran out shouting for the police and while quarrelling the couple tumbled into the shrubs together. Gibbs separated them, only to be kicked and spat at by Robinson. The Chairman said it was the fourth time Robinson had been in court and that '*his conduct was nothing less than a public scandal*'. As fines had no effect Robinson was sentenced to 7 days, with hard labour. Before being removed the Reverend said the sentence would kill him.

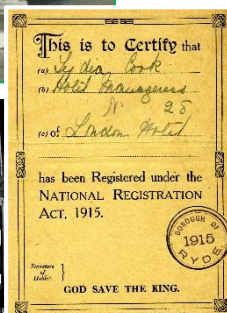


The King Arthur, in Arthur Street, was originally a beer retailer, opened in 1875. It was acquired by Mew Langton in 1921. It closed and was demolished for housing in the 1980's. Photo Roy Brinton Collection.



The London Hotel, Swanmore Road, Alfred Charles Cook, behind the bar, the dining room and Lydia Cook's Registration Card, all Tony Gale's Collection.

Cook had been a sergeant in the 1st Royal Dragoon Guards, serving in the South African War, and had been mentioned in despatches. After 21 years' service he returned to his birthplace of Ryde, and was manager of the Hotel for Long's Brewery. He died aged 62. [Extracted from his obituary, IW Times 23 April 1931].



"THE GREYHOUND,"
UNION STREET, RYDE
FREE HOUSE.
Bass and Co's 60s. Bitter,
Courage's Double Stout, on draught.
All Best Brands of WHISKY, on draught.
Courvoisier's 20 Years Old BRANDY

Situated in Union Street this pub was named the Commercial, and then the Marble Arch, before becoming the Greyhound.

Photo Roy Brinton Collection
Advert IW Observer 20 May 1885

The Vine Inn, Castle Street, left.
Photo Roy Brinton Collection.



The IW Observer, 7 November 1903, reported on James McLaughlin, 36, tailor of Castle Street, being '*very drunk and rolling about*'. Already with 5 convictions, this time he managed to fall against a window and smashed it, for which he said he was sorry. The Bench had been lenient in the past, hoping he would turn over a new leaf, but clearly he did not intend to do so, and sentenced him to 7 days' hard labour.

A DISORDERLY COUPLE.
Frederick James and Ann James, husband and wife, old offenders, were summoned for having been drunk and guilty of disorderly behaviour.—P.C. Flaherty deposed that on Thursday night, the 24th ult., he was on duty in Monkton-street, when his attention was called to the defendants, who were both drunk. He described the conduct of the female prisoner as "something awful," while her shrieks could be heard nearly a mile away; at all events one of the county police heard her and came to see what was the matter. James was fined 5s. and costs, and his wife (who did not appear) was sentenced to 7 days' hard labour.

Victoria Inn, Monkton Street
Photo Kevin Mitchell

HELPLESSLY DRUNK.
Helen Tansom, of Weeks, who did not appear, was charged with a similar offence. P.C. Flaherty proved the case. He found defendant on the night of the 17th inst. leaning against a wall in Well Street, with a crowd of people round her, so helplessly drunk that she could neither use her limbs nor speak. With the assistance of a man named Wetherick he managed to get her to the station, where she was locked up till the morning. Fined 5s. and costs.

IW Observer 23 August 1898

IW Observer 9 June 1883

