



The Crown Inn.

Stories from Bishop's Waltham



McLaren, 2023



The Crown Inn Sign, 1982 (John Bosworth)

The Crown Inn



In the 1577 Hampshire Privy Council Certificate, inns, taverns, and alehouses were distinguished as separate classes of buildings. At this time, there were 324 alehouse-keepers, 67 innkeepers, and 14 taverners in Hampshire alone. Today, the term public house, or pub, has become a generic way of referring to inns, taverns, and alehouses alike. For centuries, pubs have served various roles in communities far beyond simply being a place for patrons to eat, sleep and drink.

The pubs of Bishop's Waltham are no different. Specifically, The Crown Inn, in St. George's Square, is rich in history. It is thought to have originated as a 15th century timber-framed hall house with two bays to the west and one to the east. It is likely that the building then experienced significant reconstruction in the 17th century. One of the earliest records of a pub by that name at Bishop's Waltham was in a 1693 survey of the property, after which it became one of the town's main coaching inns. Over the centuries since, it has also acted as a post office, meeting place, concert venue, taxi rank, auction house, manor court and much more.



Advert for The Crown Inn

The Crown Inn, New Year's celebrations – Alan Veck on far right, c.1968 (John Bosworth)



Brighton Coach outside The Crown, undated, (photographer unknown)



The Crown with original beams exposed, 1997 (John Bosworth)



BISHOP'S WALTHAM MUSEUM



The Crown Inn



The Crown appears several times in a humorous account of the residents of Bishop's Waltham (under pseudonyms) from 1834 by 'Peregrine Reedpen' called 'Our Town, Or, Rough Sketches of Character, Manners, &c'. Here, The Crown is described as *"the head inn, posting house, and post-office [where] there is but little show of business, and in that little there is more noise than work. This is what the landlord would call a dull time"* (pg. 8).

The landlord at the time was described as *"somewhat aristocratic in his notions — a pert, insolent upstart, and looks with supreme contempt upon his opponent"* [The King's Head opposite] (pg. 9).

CROWN INN, BISHOP'S WALTHAM, HANTS.
F FRANCIS PERRY, late Servant to the Hon. Colonel de Burgh, respectfully informs his Friends and the Public, that he has taken and entered on the above-mentioned INN, and having laid in a good assortment of WINES and SPIRITS of the best quality, he humbly hopes for a continuance of their favours, which he will endeavour to merit by a strict attention to their commands. [41
☞ Good post-chaise and horses, with careful drivers.

Early advert of the Crown Inn and the post-chaise, praising "good assortment of WINES and SPIRITS of the best quality", and the "Good post-chaise and horses, with careful drivers"
Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 21 January 1788

BISHOP'S WALTHAM DIRECTORY.
SUBSTITUTE FOR CASTOR OIL.—TASTELESS PILULES, free from taste and smell. Price, 1s. and 2s. 6d. per bot. Post free, for 12 or 30 stamps.—Prepared by RICHARDSON and FRY, Chemists, Bishop's Waltham.
CABBAGE PLANTS for Present Planting. The best and earliest are Heartwell Marrow, Wheeler's Imperial, and Nonpareil. Free by Rail at 4l. per 100—cash with order. Shrubs, Fruit Trees, Roses, &c.—G. PAY and SON'S Nurseries, Bishop's Waltham.
THE "CROWN," Family, Commercial HOTEL, and Posting House, Bishop's Waltham. M. BOND, Proprietress.—WANTED, a respectable person as WAITRESS and Chambermaid combined.

An advert for a waitress and chambermaid combined
The Hampshire Post, 17 September 1880

According to Reedpen, the corner that The Crown sat on, saw much commotion:

"We cannot say much for the beauty of the entrances to our town. It must be confessed, they are not so handsome as they might have been. This infernal sharp corner turning round by the side of our 'head inn' has been very detrimental to drunken men and carriage pannels, to say nothing of wheels, poles and shafts" (pg. 204)



Standing on a site where an inn has stood since the 11th century, the Crown Hotel Bishop's Waltham is another building protected under the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947, as a building of special architectural or historical interest. The present hotel dates back to the middle 16th century, two of its predecessors having been burnt down. A coaching station during the 18th century, it gained the reputation of being a haunt for footpads and highwaymen. E.N. 1312



Newspaper clippings from a scrapbook belonging to a resident which was donated to the museum





The Crown Through the Ages



Crown Inn, St George's Square with the Market House in 1840 (Artist unknown)



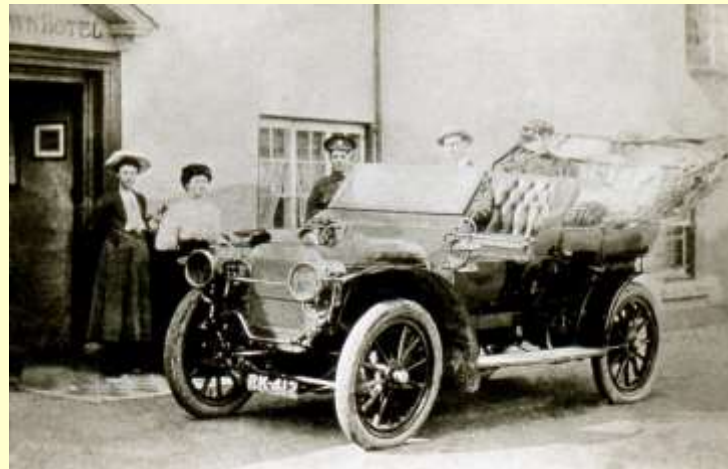
Crown Inn, rear c.1897 (Photographer unknown)



St George's Square from east, Robinsons delivering at Crown, undated (Photographer unknown)



St George's Square, with early bus, undated (Photographer unknown)



St George's Square, Crown Landlord Robert King in Argyll car, c.1908 (Photographer unknown)



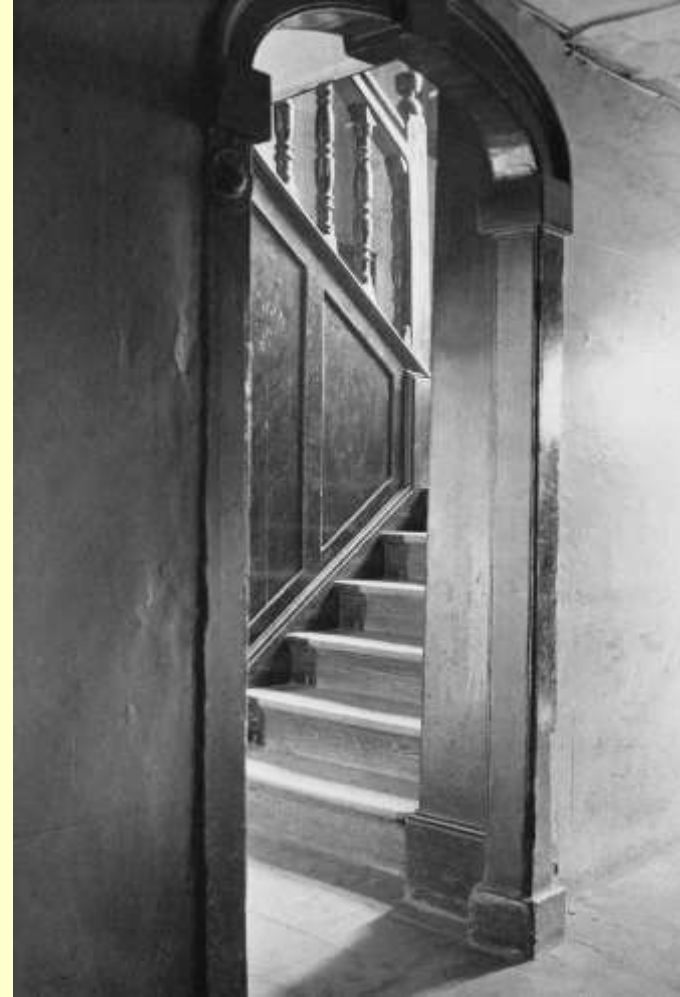
St George's Square, early 1920s (Photographer unknown)



The Crown Through the Ages



The Crown Inn interior, c1918 (Photographer unknown)



The Crown Inn interior, staircase, c1918 (Photographer unknown)



The Crown Inn interior, c1918 (Photographer unknown)



The Crown Inn interior 2018 (Penny Copeland)



The Crown Inn interior, close-up of panelling, c1918 (Photographer unknown)



Taper burn marks at the Crown Inn, 2018 (Penny Copeland)





The Crown Through the Ages



Crown Inn, Celebrations at the Armoury Bar, 1959 (John Bosworth)



The Crown Through the Ages



St George's Square, The Crown & east end, c.1960 (John Bosworth)



Crown Inn from Basingwell Street c.1960 (John Bosworth)



Fallen tree showing The Crown barn, undated (John Bosworth)



Rear of Crown Inn from Coppice Hill, 1968 (John Bosworth)



Crown Inn back door – GT Floate Postcard, undated



Crown Inn from Basingwell Street after road widening, undated (John Bosworth)





The Crown Through the Ages



St George's Square – Crown Inn south side, 1975 (John Bosworth)



The Crown from Houchin Street scaffolding, 26 November 1982 (John Bosworth)



The Crown Inn south side from Botley Road, 7 April 1984 (John Bosworth)



Crown Inn south side 13 April 1984 (Liz Lewis)



Crown Inn south side signs, 1 April 1984 (John Bosworth)



St George's Square, Crown Inn, 31 October 2003 (John Bosworth)



BISHOP'S
WALTHAM
MUSEUM



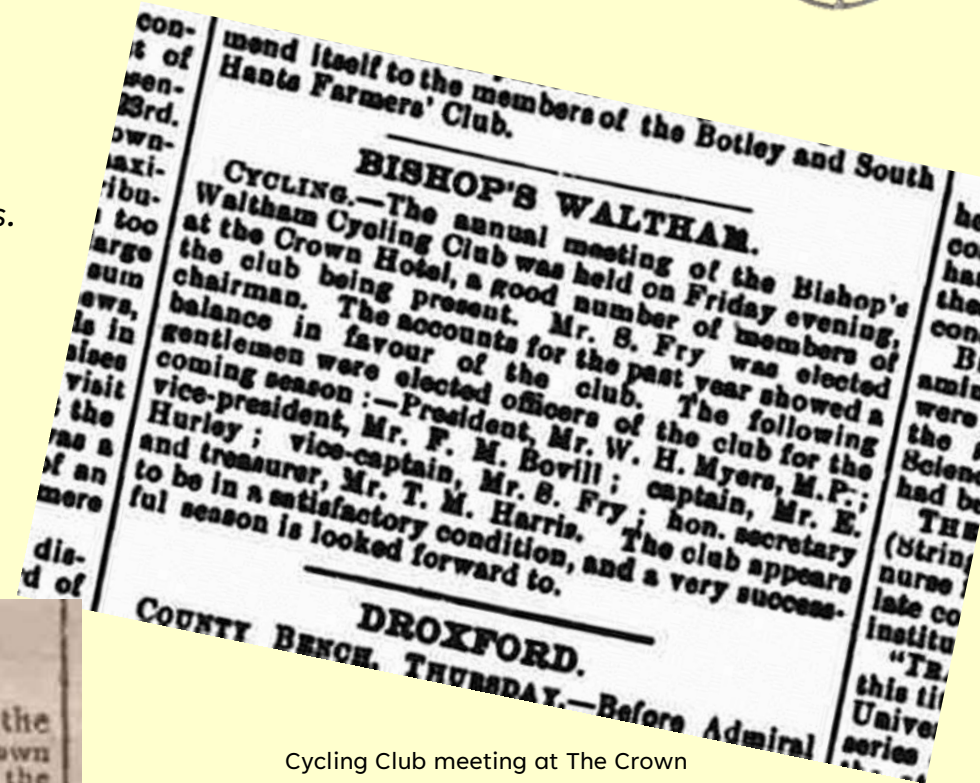
Sport and Social

The Crown Inn hosted many social and sporting events and meetings over the years. A Cricket Club was first formed here for, "persons interested in this national pastime" in February 1885. The annual subscription was "Fixed at 10s. 6d".

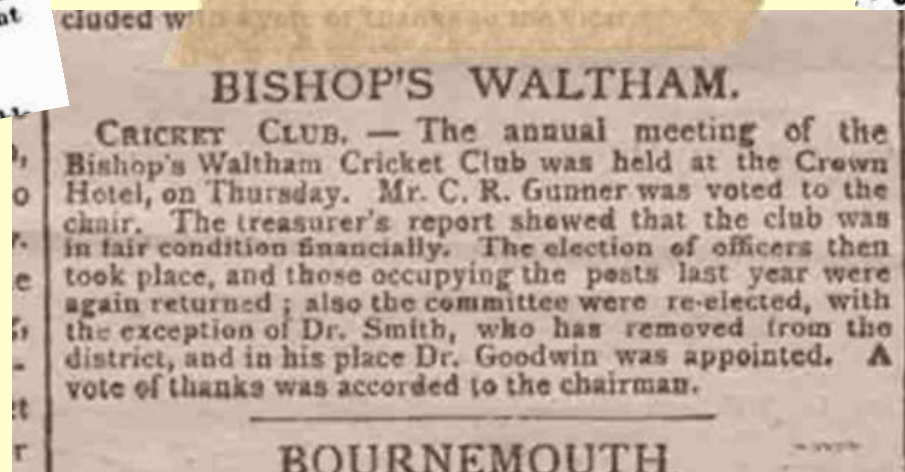
An 1893 announcement describes the Annual Cycling meeting at The Crown as appearing to "be in a satisfactory condition", with the club looking forward to a very successful season.



Formation of the Bishop's Waltham Cricket Club
Hampshire Chronicle and General Advertiser for the South and West of England, Saturday, 21 February 1885



Cycling Club meeting at The Crown
The Hampshire Advertiser County Newspaper,
18 February 1893



Cricket Club – Annual General Meeting
The Southern Echo Saturday, 4 April 1891





Sport and Social

Under routine business was disposed of, and the board adjourned.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM, MARCH 14.
THE DESTRUCTION OF FOXES IN THE HAMBLEDON COUNTRY.—The members of the Hambledon Hunt invite the landowners, farmers, and occupiers of land within the hunt to a meeting to be held at the Crown Inn, Bishop's Waltham, on Thursday, the 26th instant, to consider and decide what steps shall be taken in order that fox-hunting might be continued, so many foxes having been wantonly destroyed by trapping, &c., during the past season, and at present there is a great scarcity. All who wish to see the sport continued are earnestly requested to attend the meeting, or communicate their views to the secretary (Mr. John King) previous to its being held. We hope such steps will be taken by the gentlemen assembled as will have the effect of preventing a like complaint as is now made in the future.

WOTLEY, MARCH 14.



McLaren, 2023

BISHOP'S WALTHAM.
ST. PETER'S DAY.—Wednesday last being St. Peter's Day was observed at the Parish (St. Peter's) Church by an early morning celebration of the Communion and service in the evening. The collection at the former service was in aid of the funds of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

VOLUNTEER CHURCH PARADE.—About thirty members of the "C" Company 1st Volunteer Battalion Hants Regiment, in command of Capt. Bernard, formed up in the Square on Sunday morning last, and marched to Swanmore Church, headed by the Jubilee Temperance Band. The weather was very unfavourable, some heavy thunder showers falling. Rations were provided at the Crown Hotel on their return.

CORONATION DAY.—On Tuesday last (Coronation Day) a procession from Portsmouth

A volunteer church parade, for which rations were provided at The Crown afterwards
Hampshire Chronicle And General Advertiser For The South And West Of England, 2 July 1898

BISHOP'S WALTHAM.
A smoking concert was held at the Crown Hotel on Thursday, in aid of the funds of the local Fire Brigade, Mr. Frank Stubbs (hon. captain) presiding. A capital programme was gone through. The Brigade is much in need of funds to repair the engine house, which is in a very dilapidated condition.

The Manor Court in connection with the Winchester Bishopric Estates, was held at the Crown Hotel on Wednesday, and at Droxford on Thursday. Mr. H. de Bick Porter, deputy steward, presided at both courts.

The notice of collation of the Rev. E. Hugh Rycroft, as rector, has been affixed to the church door, shows that the following appointments have been held by the new rector.—1851, Curacy of All Saints, Bradford; 1859, curacy of Berenden, Kent; 1891, vicarage of Bretley, Derbyshire; 1895, rectory of Highclere, Newbury.

The result of the recent Hospital Saturday collection is satisfactory. Last year about £22 was collected. This year the house to house collection realised £7 13s. 1½d.; street corners (afternoon), £4 14s. 10½d.; street corners (evening), £4 4s. 5½.; stationary boxes, £4 6s. 6½d.; total, £23 18s. 11½d.

In connection with the Hants County Council and Board of Education, evening classes have commenced at the Educational Institute.

A smoking concert was held at The Crown to raise funds for the engine house
The Hampshire Advertiser County Newspaper, 13 October 1905

Subscriptions are limited to £2.

THE HAMBLEDON HUNT.—The Members of the above HUNT invite a MEETING of LANDOWNERS, FARMERS, and OCCUPIERS of LAND, the Hunt, to be held at the CROWN HOTEL, BISHOP'S WALTHAM, on THURSDAY, the 26th of MARCH, at 12 o'clock, to consider and decide what steps should be taken in order that FOXHUNTING MAY BE CONTINUED.

In consequence of the GREAT SCARCITY of FOXES during the past season, owing to WANTON DESTRUCTION, by trapping, &c., all WELL WISHERS are earnestly requested to attend, or to communicate their views to the Secretary previous to the meeting.

JOHN KING, Hon. Secty., H.H.C.
 Warnford Cottage, Bishop's Waltham,
 7th March, 1874.

Two notices for fox hunting meetings to encourage fox hunting to continue in the area
The Hampshire Advertiser County Newspaper, 14 March 1874



Fox hunt gathering in St George's Square, c.1896 (photographer unknown)





Cock Fighting

Cock fighting was an annual sporting event (The annual grand main of cocks) in Bishop's Waltham, attracting competitors from as far afield as the Isle of Wight and Salisbury. A barn which stood at the back of the Crown Inn is where cock fighting took place.

Cock fighting has been illegal in the UK since the Cruelty to Animal Act of 1835, however, as recently as 1933, the Hampshire Advertiser referred to "ugly rumours of cock fighting in years gone by" in a barn "near the Square". Match wins were often celebrated with an 'excellent dinner' in the Crown Inn.

of the outer bricks, which were used for many years to enter the shop in a few minutes more had not an interruption taken place to their labours.

Cockfighting - The grand main of cocks (as noticed in our last) between the Isle of Wight, and the Waltham and Chichester feeders, took place on Thursday last, at Bishop's Waltham; and after some excellent fighting, was decided in favour of the latter, who won the odd battle, the following being the number of battles fought: -

Waltham and Chichester 9
Isle of Wight 8

The last battle was particularly interesting, and from the goodness of both birds, the palm of victory for a time hung doubtful. The birds were well handled for both parties, those of the Isle of Wight by Denham, and those of the other party by Cock, of London. A considerable number of amateurs from the Island, Chichester, Southampton, and other places, attended upon the occasion, and a party, amounting to nearly sixty, partook of an excellent dinner at the Crown Inn, which was well served by Austin. The return main will not, we understand, be fought until next season.

Died, last week, at Alresford, aged 79 years, Mrs. Freeman, widow of the late Mr. Freeman, Millwright, of that place.

HAMBLEDON, MAY 17.



The school kept by Mrs. Jenner in itself for many years a great success. In imitation of Winchester we had our "Domum day."

At the earliest period at which I can remember Bishop's Waltham it was a great place for cock fighting, which was carried on there in a barn near the Crown Inn on a very large scale and at certain times of the year this brought a great number of sporting men to the town.

The good work which has recently been done by Sir Wm. Jenner in excavating the ruins of the old Palace, will awaken a fresh interest in the history and surroundings of the old town, and will, I hope, be the means of bringing to light further facts and details of antiquity and interest.

Reference to cock fighting "in a barn near the Crown Inn" from a letter by William Houghton (Probably from) The Winchester Observer and County News, August 1891

McLaren, 2023



The outbuildings behind The Crown Inn, 1968 (John Bosworth)

any remaining one, and to prevent the spread of the disease.

COCK FIGHTING!

There were ugly rumours of cock-fighting in years gone by, and a barn near the Square was said to be the scene of many gatherings.

Who has not heard of the famous "Waltham blacks?" Their name is associated with Waltham Chase, a

The Hampshire Advertiser And Southampton Times, 29 April 1933

A match between the Isle of Wight and the Waltham and Chichester feeders (the men who fed, watered and trained the birds). The match was won by Waltham and Chichester, 9-8 and a celebratory dinner was held at The Crown Inn afterwards. Hampshire Advertiser And Royal Yacht Club Gazette, 17 May 1828





Admiral Pierre-Charles Villeneuve



Bishop's Waltham was a parole town. After the French defeat at the Battle of Trafalgar, French officers were taken to Bishop's Waltham as prisoners of war. Admiral Pierre-Charles Villeneuve, (1763 – 1806), Commander-in Chief of the French and Spanish fleets, landed at Gosport on the 29th of November 1805. He and ten officers and servants (including his cook) were taken to Bishop's Waltham by post-chaise where they were billeted in the Crown Inn, and later Vernon Hill. A corner cupboard, still in The Crown today, is thought to have been constructed by other French prisoners. The French artist, Ambroise Louis Garneray, was also quartered at The Crown, where he painted several of his sea landscapes from memory while in residence.

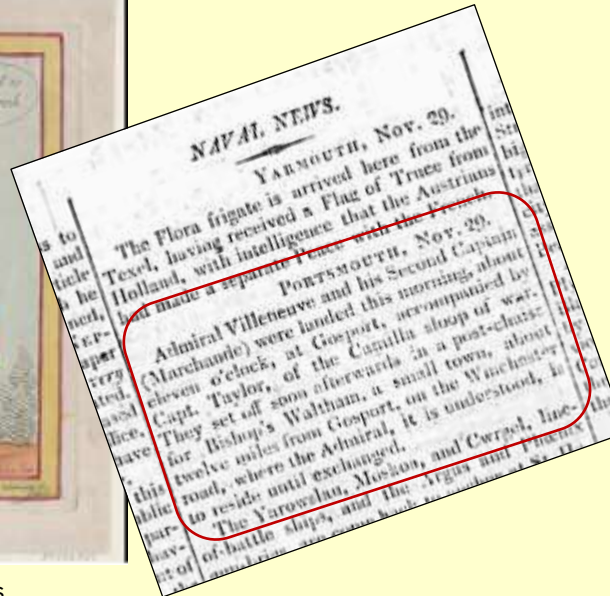


McLaren, 2023

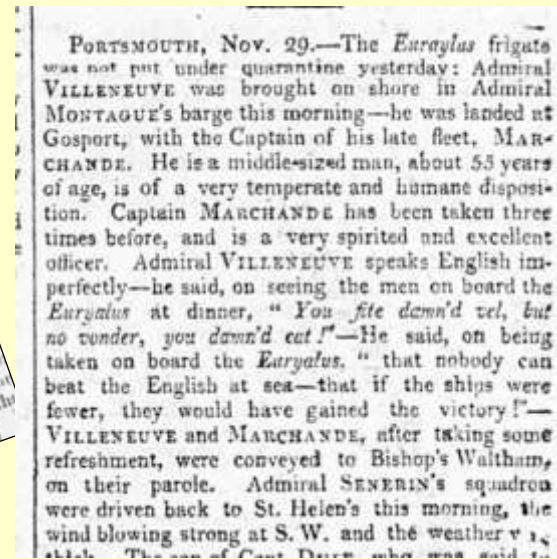
Admiral Villeneuve, was fluent in English and had remarked, on being taken on board the *Euryalus*, "that nobody can beat the English at sea – that if the ships were fewer, they would have gained victory!" Oracle and the Daily Advertiser, 2 December 1805



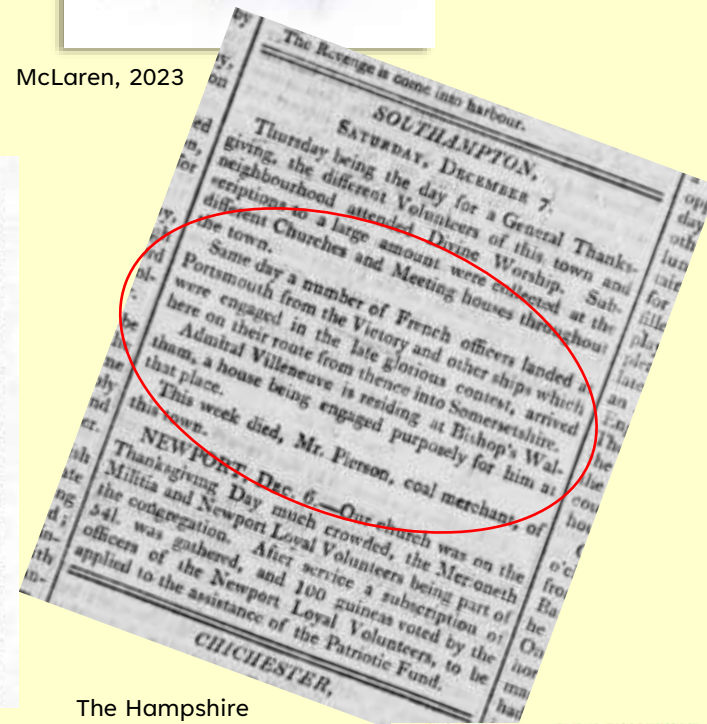
The French Admiral on Board the Euryalus by Thomas Rowlandson
11 December 1803, from The Elisha Whittesley Collection



British Neptune, 1 December 1805



The Oracle and The Daily Advertiser,
2 December 1805



The Hampshire Chronicle,
7 December 1805



BISHOP'S
WALTHAM
MUSEUM



The Beer Riots



On Friday the 19th of September 1884, a riot broke out in Bishop's Waltham, with a fight also taking place at the Armoury Bar of the Crown Hotel. It is believed to have started when the Curate of the Parish, Reverend E.G. Falconer, opposed the renewal of the licences of many of the licensed houses in the town. The landlords and customers alike strongly objected to this reduction and were prepared to fight for it.

The pond was most likely the medieval fish pond of Bishop's Waltham Palace, now divided into two by a road to Winchester. The pond is just a two- minute walk from The Crown Inn



McLaren, 2023

BISHOP'S WALTHAM.
SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.—The triennial election of this Board took place yesterday week. Three new candidates were nominated, and thus caused a contest; but very little excitement was shown during the polling hours. At six o'clock the result was known, four of the old members being returned and one new one. Mr. H. Hurley (Chairman of late Board) headed the poll with 326; Rev. G. W. Hills, of Curbridge (Vice-Chairman), 310; Mr. Padbury, the new member, 222; Mr. E. Clark, 168; and Mr. C. Grossmith, 121. The unsuccessful candidates were Mr. A. Savage, 97; Mr. J. Wyatt, 107; and Mr. C. Church, 74.

Riotous Proceedings.—This usually quiet town was on the night of Friday the 19th inst. the scene of disgraceful rowdyism. Expecting the arrival of the Rev. E. G. Falconer, curate of the parish (who recently raised objection to the renewal of licences at the licensing meeting) a number of roughs paraded the streets carrying an effigy of the rev. gentleman, and proceeded to the Railway Station. Fortunately, however, the rev. gentleman did not arrive, and he was thus saved personal annoyance, and perhaps injury. The mob then proceeded to the residence of Mr. Hurley, Albert House, making discordant noises, demanding beer, thence they went round Newtown, and back into St. George's-square, and then retired into Brook-street, at the back of Messrs. Clark and Nutt's. The police then attempted to take the effigy away, but were at once attacked by large numbers of roughs, who drove them into the square. The rioters then fired the effigy, and amidst the roars and shouts of the large assembly, it was soon consumed, some taking hold of the flaming "limbs," and throwing them round and round, illuminating the square. The mob, incensed at the police interference, showed for a long while open defiance, another fight taking place about eleven o'clock. Seeing Mr. Arnold Clark (the son of Mr. F. Clark) standing near his father's residence, talking to Police-constable Brown, a large number of them made a rush at him. One rioter stooped down, took hold of the legs of Mr. Clark, and tripped him over, and he was badly beaten, kicked, and stoned. Police-constable Brown made a gallant defence, but received three or four severe stone cuts in the head; he was thrown to the ground, kicked, and otherwise assaulted, and rendered almost insensible, but he managed, with difficulty, to get inside the King's Head Inn, where his injuries were attended to. Meanwhile Police-constable Woods (Sheffill) and Langford (Upham) were engaged in another fight, but were driven into the Crown Hotel, where stones were hurled at them. Soon after eleven Sergeant Luttrell, from Droxford, rode into the town, and not knowing what had transpired, was, to his astonishment, assaulted with stones, and had to ride with all possible speed to the Crown stables, where a large crowd followed, shouting "Down with the sergeant, &c." Mr. Henry Beeres, farmer, of Shirrell Heath, who had come into the town to vote at the School Board election, received a blow with a stick, which stunned him, cutting his hat, and inflicting a wound on his forehead. Inside the yard the police captured two of the presumed rioters, E. Epps and Shorney, the latter

Hampshire Chronicle and General Advertiser For The South and West of England, 27 September 1884

A plan was made to seize Reverend Falconer when he alighted off the train and then throw him into the fish pond. Fortunately for the Curate, he did not arrive, so the plan was never carried out. Unfortunately, this sparked more violent and serious actions from the mob. They carried an effigy (which they later burned) of the Reverend, demanding beer and physically assaulting several people, including the police. Those responsible were tried and sentenced to hard labour. Albert Blackman received one month while Ernest Blackman and Alfred Cooper received fourteen days each.

...on returning into court, the Chairman said they had given the case of assault their careful consideration. The Blackmans had pleaded guilty, and the case was fully proved against Cooper. They thought a fine would not meet the justice of the case, and therefore sentenced A. Blackman, who had been previously convicted, to a month's hard labour, and the other defendants to fourteen days each. He characterised the assault as a most cowardly one. In the second case they found all guilty, but did not inflict any penalty, merely ordering payment of the costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT.—Frank Newman, Edward Matthews, James Gardner, and Frederick Miles, all of Soberton were summoned for being drunk and refusing

Report on the court case for the Bishop's Waltham Beer Riots The Hampshire Advertiser County Newspaper, 16 January 1886





Post Office



The closure of The Crown Post Office was announced in 1930 to the objection of many of the local residents.

The reason given was that the town was already served by other larger Post Offices nearby which had the capacity to serve the town efficiently.

While several part time jobs were threatened, two full time jobs, at another post office, were made available through this scheme.

Many prominent residents viewed this as a step backwards and as a threat to the economy of the growing village, though some agreed that the post office should not be associated with any other business.

The Hampshire Advertiser And Southampton Times, 24 January 1931



The Hampshire Advertiser And Southampton Times, 24 January 1931

One story in Reedpen's account (1834) describes a romance between a former "post-boy" at The Crown and a widow who was the sister of the landlady. The landlady apparently sold up shortly afterwards out of embarrassment and invested in a postal business elsewhere with the couple.





Auctions

Richard Austin was recorded as the landlord of The Crown in 1830. In 1836, he began a business as an auctioneer and estate agent, later called Austin and Wyatt from 1903, when Wyatt partnered with his descendent, also called Richard Austin (there have been three Richard Austins involved with the business). Census records from 1841 also list a Richard Austin as publican until his death in 1850. He left everything to his brothers-in-law, though it was in a trust for his wife and children. He directed that after his death his wife should "relinquish give up and discontinue the business of Innkeeper and Wine and Spirit Merchant now carried on by me", and that his brothers in law should sell the Crown contents as soon as convenient and invest it for his wife's benefit. Austin and Wyatt continued to hold property auctions at The Crown for over a hundred years, as did several other auctioneers.



McLaren, 2023

SALE OF DROXFORD MILL.—On Wednesday Mr. Richard Austin, of this town, disposed of, at the Crown Hotel, the freehold property known as Droxford Mill. The mill drives three pairs of stones, and has steam power attached, and included in the sale were also the mill house, yard, outbuildings, &c. The property, which is let to Mr. Rowland Hurley at £100 per annum, was purchased by Mr. Francis Hurley for £1200.

Auction Sale of Droxford Mill by Richard Austin of the town Hampshire Chronicle, 15 January 1887

27 & 28, BISHOP'S WALTHAM
To Investors, Speculators and Others.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM, Hants.

Particulars of Sale
OF THE
FREEHOLD PROPERTY,
Formerly a Licensed House,
KNOWN AS
'THE RED LION,'
Red Lion Street, Bishop's Waltham

To be offered for Sale by Auction by
Sawbridge & Son, F.A.I.

THE CROWN HOTEL, BISHOP'S WALTHAM,
On WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24th, 1928.
At 11 AM.

Particulars of Sale to be obtained from
Messrs. HEPHERD, WINSTANLEY & PUGH, Solicitors,
10 & 11, BISHOP'S WALTHAM, HANTS.

FRIDAY, 8th JUNE, 1928.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM, HANTS.

Particulars of Sale to be obtained by Sale
OF THE
FREEHOLD PROPERTY
OF
293 Acres
OF
STREET END FARM,
LAND ADJOINING
AND WOODLANDS.

Richard Austin and Wyatt

CROWN HOTEL BISHOP'S WALTHAM,
ON FRIDAY, 8th JUNE, 1928.

1084

Richard Austin 35.

This is the last Will and Testament

of me *Richard Austin* of Bishop's Waltham in the County of Southampton I do hereby after payment of all my just debts funeral & testamentary expenses I give devise and bequeath unto my two brothers in law *John Ribler* and *George Parker Walle* my dwelling-house built upon cottages and other buildings at Coppice Hill Bishop's Waltham also my household furniture and implements of household use at the Crown Inn Bishop's Waltham and at Coppice Hill aforesaid my stock in trade as an Innkeeper and Spirit Merchant and all my singular other my real and personal estate both movable securities for money goods chattels and effects whatsoever and wheresoever to be sold the same real and personal estate and effects; and certain personal effects unto them the said *John Ribler* and *George Parker Walle* their heirs executors and administrators respectively according to the several tenures and nature thereof and from the said *John Ribler* and *George Parker Walle* and for the uses intents and purposes hereafter expressed and bearing all and continuing the same (that is to say) As to my household furniture and implements of household use at my dwelling-house adjoining the Coppice Hill aforesaid I give devise bequeath unto the said *John Ribler* and *George Parker Walle* and the executors and administrators of our said brothers and

Richard Austin's 1847 Will and Testament stating that his "furniture and implements of house-hold at the Crown Inn Bishops Waltham", amongst other property, is to be bequeathed to his brothers in law. NA PROB-11-2114-91



Austin and Wyatt building from St George's Square, 1987 (John Bosworth)

Two notices for auctions to be held at The Crown Hotel by "Sawbridge & Son, F.A.I." and "Richard Austin and Wyatt" respectively





Legal Proceedings



BISHOP'S WALTHAM.
 A smoking concert was held at the Crown Hotel on Thursday, in aid of the funds of the local Fire Brigade. Mr. Frank Stubbs (hon. captain) presiding. A capital programme was gone through. The Brigade is much in need of funds to repair the engine house, which is in a very dilapidated condition.

The Manor Court in connection with the Winchester Bishopric Estates, was held at the Crown Hotel on Wednesday, and at Droxford on Thursday. Mr. H. de Bek Porter, deputy steward presided at both courts.

The notice of collation of the Rev. E. H. Rycroft, as rector, has been affixed to the church door, shows that the following appointments have been held by the new rector.—1891, Curacy of All Saints, Bradford; 1889, curacy of Benenden, Kent; 1891, vicarage of Bretley, Derbyshire; 1895, rectory of Highclere, Newbury.

The result of the recent Hospital Saturday collection is satisfactory. Last year about £22 was collected. This year the house to house collection realised £7 15s. 1½d.; street corners (afternoon), £4 14s. 10½d.; street corners (evening) £4 4s. 5d.; stationary boxes, £4 6s. 6½d; total, £29 18s. 1½d.

In connection with the Hants County Council and Board of Education, evening classes have commenced at the Educational Institute.

The Hampshire Advertiser County Newspaper, 14 October 1905

Manor Court was a form of post-medieval local governance which allowed ordinary people to punish and suppress unlawful behaviour, maintain shared landscapes and protect local resources.

The Hampshire Advertiser County Newspaper, 28 November 1914

13 previous convictions, and he was committed accordingly.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM.
 THE ANNUAL TITHE AUDIT of the Rev. W. Brock was held at the Crown on Tuesday, when nearly 80 sat down to a substantial dinner, provided by Mr. H. Bond. Mr. T. Sims (Messrs. Gunner and Kenny) presided. After dinner the loyal toasts were given by the Chairman, and the health of the Rev. W. Brock was proposed by Mr. T. Pratt, the toast being received with cheers. Mr. Sims responded for the vicar, and Mr. W. Mears then gave the health of the chairman. The health of Mr. Sign (vice-chairman) was proposed by Mr. Sims, who referred to the death of Mr. George Thompson, who for many years held that post, but who since the last tithe meeting had passed away. Mr. Sign briefly responded. An enjoyable evening was spent.

The Annual Tithe Audit held at the Crown Hampshire Chronicle, 15 January 1887

BISHOP'S WALTHAM.
 The annual Court of St. Martin for the Manor of Bishop's Waltham in connection with the Winchester Bishopric Estates was held by the Deputy Steward, Mr. H. de Bock Porter, of the Ecclesiastical Commission, Millbank, at the Crown Hotel, on Wednesday, in the presence of the Manor, consisting of local tenants of the similar Court was held by Mr. Porter on Tuesday at the White Horse Inn, Droxford, in connection

HANTS CONSTABULARY.
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,—The SUPERINTENDENTS of the HANTS CONSTABULARY will attend, by virtue of their appointments as Inspectors of Weights and Measures, at the undermentioned places within their respective Divisions, on the first market day after the 1st of May, for the purpose of examining, comparing, and stamping, if found correct, all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to them for that purpose, in the manner and form prescribed by the Act 5 and 6 William IV. cap. 63:—

Divisions.	Market Towns.	Houses.
Alton	Alton	Station House
Andover	Andover	Station House
Basingstoke	Stockbridge	Grosvenor Arms
Droxford	Bishop's Waltham	Station House
Fareham	Fareham	Station House
Kingsclere	Harant	Station House
Lymington & New Forest	Kingsclere	Station House
	Lymington	Station House

Notice By the Hampshire Constabulary to inspect weights and measures The Hampshire Chronicle, Southampton and Isle of Wight Courier, 23 April 1859

On the 23rd of September 1736, Robert Baynes (the then Crown landlord) was witness in a church court regarding "Todd and others against Cook". The court witness statements were taken at The Crown.

Handwritten court records for "Todd and others against Cook" from 23rd September 1736. The case addressed Mr Cook's desire to build a private pew in the church and the parishioners attempts to stop him.

Court records for "Todd and others against Cook" from 23rd September 1736. The case addressed Mr Cook's desire to build a private pew in the church and the parishioners attempts to stop him LPA Bbb 1296





Stable Stories

Every old building has a story or two about ‘resident ghosts’ and The Crown is no exception. Rumour has it that it is haunted by a young stable boy who is thought to have been killed when kicked by a horse. Not too far-fetched when you consider there was a stable attached to the rear of The Crown until 1968, when it was demolished to make way for a new bypass between the rear of the Square and the Palace.



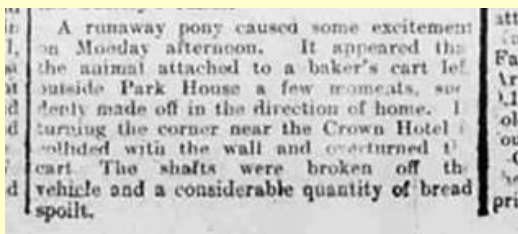
McLaren, 2023



McLaren, 2023

One of the doors near the corner was often referred to as the “*mortuary door*”. Was this because the corner was deadly or the pub was used as an ad hoc mortuary? We’ll never know...

There is a story of a runaway pony which “*caused some excitement*”. Having run in the direction of its home while attached to a baker’s cart, it collided with a wall while turning the corner near The Crown and overturned the cart, spoiling a quantity of bread.



Runaway Pony, The Hampshire Post and Southsea Observer, 3 November 1905

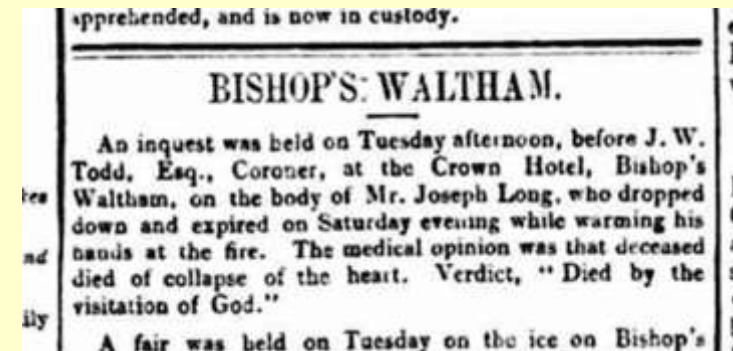


Rear of Crown Inn with stables, 6 September 1968 (John Bosworth)



Rear of Crown Inn with stables being demolished, 13 September 1968 (John Bosworth)

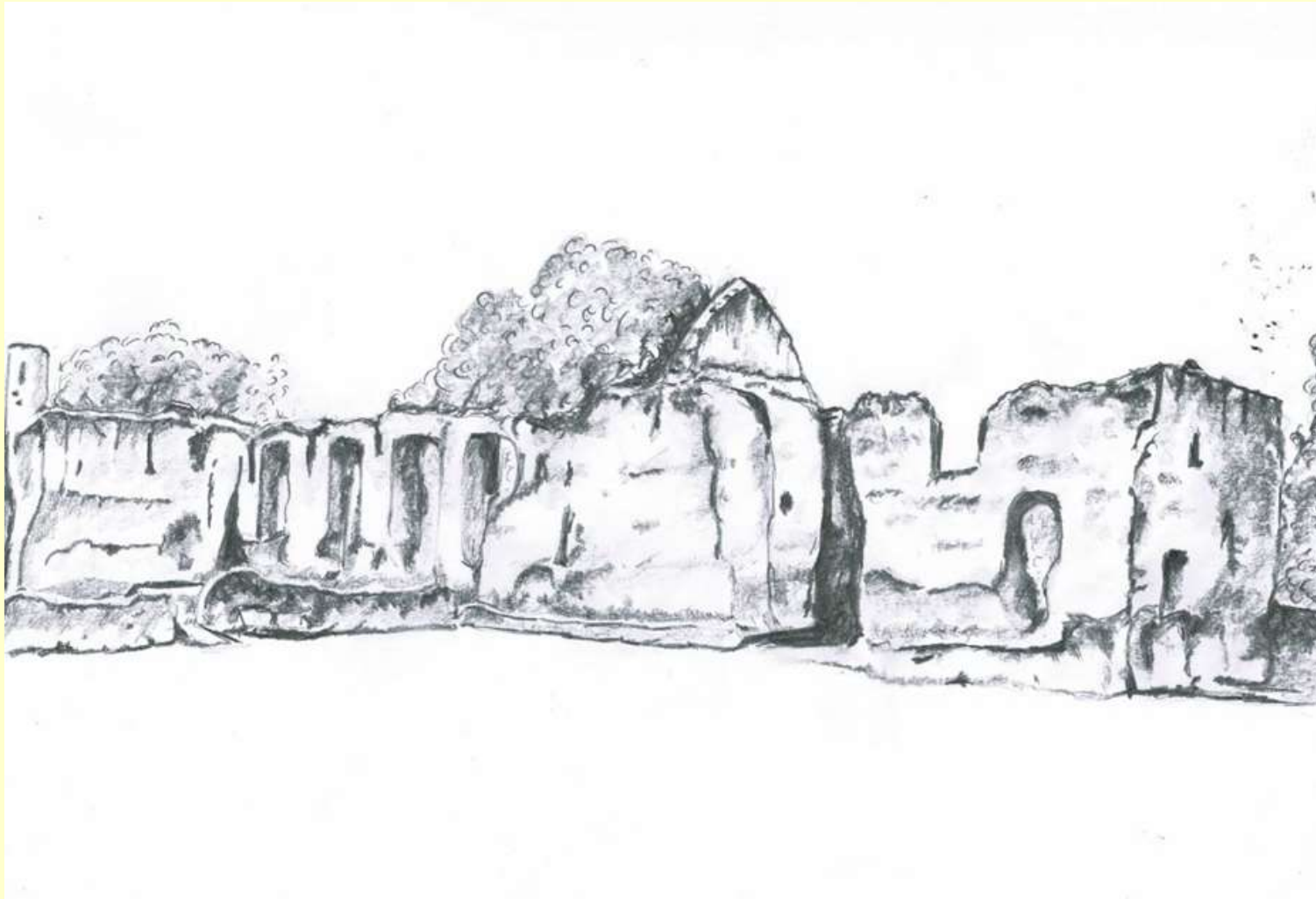
Whether or not there really is an apparition of a stable lad, there have certainly been instances of death in the near vicinity. An inquest by a coroner was held in The Crown in 1835. The body of Mr Joseph Long, “*who dropped down and expired [...] by the visitation of God*”, was examined at The Crown Inn.



Portsmouth Times And Naval Gazette, 24 February 1855



BISHOP'S WALTHAM MUSEUM



McLaren, 2023

Bishop's Palace ruins, a very close neighbour to The Crown Inn and the home of Bishop Waltham's Museum, managed by English Heritage
Find out more here: <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/bishops-waltham-palace/> and at www.bishopswalthammuseum.com

Website: www.bishopswalthammuseum.com Email: bishopswalthammuseum@gmail.com Address: Bishop's Waltham Palace, Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire SO32 1DH



BISHOP'S
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MUSEUM