

WHITCHURCH PUB TRAIL



Whitchurch has a long history of ale and beer brewing. There are in existence 14th Century documents which record Whitchurch supplying the manor with over 12,000 gallons of ale per year! During the 17th Century there were 6 inns, 23 alehouses and 3 taverns in the town.

The buildings listed on the trail have been identified as properties that sold beer and ale during the period 1700-1850.

1. The Horse & Jockey

This is a very old building constructed in four phases, the third of which is an upper-cruck construction. The 1761 Town Map shows a small oblong building, which might possibly have been an alehouse in the late 17th or early 18th century. During the 1890s it had 4 bedrooms for 6 lodgers plus stabling for 20 horses by day and 6 overnight.

2. The Greyhound

This is one of the oldest inns in Whitchurch, referred to as the Black Greyhound in 1667. At this time it was rented to Robert Peares and later taken over by his wife Margerie in 1683. During the 1890s it had 6 bedrooms for 11 lodgers plus stabling for 50 horses by day and 14 overnight.

3. Red Lion

In its day this was a renowned coaching and posting inn. It is known to have existed since the 1660s and in the mid 18th century it is known to have had a Cockpit in the yard behind. Its name was changed to The Victoria on accession of the young queen in 1837. During the 1890s it had 14 bedrooms plus stabling for 100 horses by day and 40 overnight.

4. Red Cow

Previous names of this inn were the Carpenters Arms and the Old Buck. It was first occupied as The Carpenters Arms by Robert Garmstone in 1751. By 1797 it was listed in a local trade directory as The Old Buck, occupied by Henry Woolrich, a butcher. During the 1890s it had 5 bedrooms plus stabling for 6 horses by day and 3 overnight.

5. The Anchor

This inn has previously been called The Saracen's Head and The Royal Oak. Between 1822 and 1850 the occupier was listed as RB Jones (senior). He was the father of the founder of the Whitchurch Herald, the town's local newspaper. This was the first time that the premises were referred to as The Anchor. During the 1890s it had 7 bedrooms but no stables.

6. The Star

This inn is first mentioned in 1797 when occupied by Will Cartwright. During the 1890s it had 8 bedrooms for 16 lodgers plus stabling for 14 horses by day and 5 overnight.

7. Fox & Goose

The Fox and Goose was first recorded as an inn at the end of the eighteenth century. During the 1890s it was listed as offering 7 bedrooms plus stabling for 60 horses by day and 22 overnight.

8. Bull's Head

This was originally built as a timber-framed house, probably during the late 16th century. It was also known during the 17th century as both The Red Bull and the Bull Inn. The building was extended to the rear around 1700 and further redesigned and remodelled in the 19th century. During the 1890s it had four bedrooms plus stabling for 10 horses by day and 5 overnight.

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