

10 High St, Cowbridge – Butchers Arms/Master Brewer

- 1738 Lord Talbot, one burgage in tenure of Richard Bassett *Burgage rentals 41*
- 1744 Lord Talbot, owner, Richard Bassett, occupier, one burgage *BR 43*
- 1758 Lease for 21 years, rent £6, William Lord Talbot to Thomas Thomas of Cowbridge, shopkeeper – two cottages, garden and meadow called Gwain y Gare adjacent the east gate in Cowbridge
D/D D 162
- 1762/3 Earl Talbot owned, Mr Thomas Thomas occupied *BR 41*
- 1778 Lease for 99 years or lives of John Thomas (son), Martha Thomas (daughter) and Thomas Thomas (son of Benjamin Thomas, grandson of Thomas Thomas), Wm Lord Talbot to Thomas Thomas of Cowbridge gent. - two cottages and gardens in Cowbridge and meadow called Gwain y Gare
D/D D
- 1815 Thomas Thomas owned, Samuel Williams occupied, house and shop, 6/- *LTA*
- 1816 Earl Talbot owned, John Parrott occupied *BR 42*
- 1833 Earl Talbot owned, John Perrott occupied *BR 42*

Butchers Arms - 10 High St, Cowbridge (*information from family tree*)

1835 Marriage of David Morgan to Ann Thomas

1836 First child born and fourth in 1840

1841 Ann died, and David married Gwennlian Lloyd, daughter of Watkin Lloyd of the Three Tuns, St Nicholas

1843 tithe : occupied by David Morgan, born 1810 in Llanblethian to Evan and Catherine Morgan of Llanblethian Farm

1851 David was 40, butcher and publican with Gwennlian 32, and daughters Ann (12), Susannah (11) and Jennette (7).

1858, 21st August To be sold by auction on September 10th on the premises at the Smith's Forge near the East Gate, property of Mrs Morgan, the whole of household furniture and smith's tools. Household furniture includes tent and other bedsteads, tables, cupboards, dresser and ware, clock, chairs etc., pig trough, grindstone and frame complete, wheelbarrow nearly new. The crop of potatoes in the garden to be sold in 4 lots. In the smith's forge – two pairs of bellows, two anvils etc. House, garden and shop to be let with immediate possession.
Glamorgan Gazette - *does this relate to this property? B. Alden*

1872 Jennette married Thomas John, widower and maltster of Aberthin (parish records). They had four children, including Arthur John who founded the ironmongery business at 43 High St.

1873 David Morgan died, leaving his estate to Gwenllian.
She remained at 10 High St till 1884.

Deeds of 10 High Street

1885 Conveyance, Edward Rhys Wingfield & others to John George of Cowbridge, merchant (recites Rt Hon Geo Rice, Baron Dynevor, d 1869, devised Castell Mynach estate to executors to use of E R Wingfield) that f/h mess, public house and premises known as the Butchers Arms, with outbuildings, garden and paddock in rear, then occupied by Gwenllian Morgan

1900 21 yr lease, John George to Annie Jenkin of Butchers Arms Hotel, maltster and brewer - mess or public house known as the Butchers Arms hotel, with garden. One stable and one coach house in the rear thereof

1913 John George died intestate; admin to Annie George, daughter

1921 Conveyance, A George to Edith Louise Bryant of Butchers Arms Hotel...all that public house Butchers Arms, then occupied by EL Bryant and her undertenants

1923 Conveyance, EL Bryant to Rees Thomas of Mountain Ash, Butchers Arms then occupied by EL Bryant

1927 Conveyance, RT to Annie Hunt widow, of Cardiff

1928 Conveyance, AH to Mr and Mrs JH Guildford of Treherbert

1929 Conveyance, JH and El Guildford to FA Hawkins of Aylesbury, motor engineer

1931 FA Hawkins of 'Red Dragon' hotel named in a deed re 8 High St

(1947 Red Dragon hotel – James and Alatheia Blair *Electoral register*)

1969 Mitchells and Butlers Ltd named as owners of Red Dragon in a grant of easement

1999 Master Brewer closed (became 'Beauty Within' beauty parlour)

Research of I. Ashby, R. Press and K. P. Morgan 1998

This inn has been variously known as the Butcher's Arms, the Red Dragon and the Master Brewer

The Butchers Arms is named in Dr.L.HOPKIN-JAMES' book "Old Cowbridge" as being among the list of persons obtaining certificates for keeping inns, alehouses etc. in 1833. At that time anyone could open an alehouse for the cost of 2 guineas and prior to the late 19C most inns or alehouses brewed their own beer from the malt which they purchased from one of six maltsters plying their trade in the town.

In the Tithe list of 1843 the owner is stated as being Edward BALLARD and the occupier as David MORGAN. The latter is then shown in the 1851 Census (#79) as aged 40, butcher & publican along with his 2nd wife Gwenllian (32) and three daughters Ann (12), Susannah (11) and Jennette (7). The latter married a John, and was mother of Arthur John of 43 High St.

David MORGAN was born in 1810 in Llanblethian to Evan & Catherine MORGAN of Llanblethian Farm. In 1835 he married an Ann THOMAS, they had their first child in 1836 and their fourth child in 1840.

According to the book "Old Cowbridge" up to 1895 there were no butchers' shops in the town and all meat & poultry was sold from the five stalls of the shambles. Three of the butchers were Richard HOWE, John WILLIAMS (the Pelican Inn) and David MORGAN (the Butcher's Arms).

The 1861 Census (#187) shows the same as 1851, apart from Ann, and the 1871 Census (#201) the same as 1861, apart from Susannah.

David died in 1873 leaving his estate to his wife Gwenllian who in the Glamorgan Rate Book of 1874 is shown as the occupant (and the owner Lord Dynevor) and then is given in the 1881 Census as being an annuitant & publican. It also lists, living with her, a widowed brother David LLOYD, aged 72 and born in St. Hilary and two step granddaughters - Madeline, 21, a dressmaker and Susannah, 17, a publican's assistant (Census#72).

1884 sale documents of the Castell Mynach estate show that the property was put up for sale by Edward Rhys Wingfield.

The 1891 Census (#71) gives the occupants as a Thomas LOUGHER, aged 31, a victualler born in Llandaff, his wife Mary (29) born in Llantrithyd and his widowed mother-in-law, Elizabeth Williams (64) born in Pendoylan.

The Petty Sessions records for 1894 show the owner as being John GEORGE, a coal merchant and the licensee as Lewis JENKINS (owner of the Cowbridge Brewery) until his death on 5.11.1897 when the licensee is given as Ann JENKINS, his widow, up to 1900.

The ownership of the premises passed to HANSARD Bros, in May 1900 and a little time later became the property of Thos MORGAN - The Brewery, Pontyclun. (D/D O-R 28/13-18)

According to the Petty Sessions Records, from July 1900 to May 1901 the alehouse licensee was David GIBBON, from May 1901 to Nov 1902 a Robert Lewis THOMAS and from Nov 1902 to Dec 1903 a Philip John NOEL.

After a number of years where the licence changed hands quite frequently, the licence was held by Samuel James HAYTER for almost 9 years from Dec 1903 to Feb 1912.

Directories show that a William JAMES was the innkeeper from Feb 1912 until Aug 1914 when it was taken over by Wyndham Thomas MORGAN. The latter is then given as the innkeeper in Kelly's directory of 1920. then the 1926 publication shows Charles FROWEN. The ex-Cardiff City footballer. Jimmy Blair, was a subsequent landlord.

The current Proprietor is Mr. Colin FERRIS

Initially the inn was known as the "BUTCHER'S ARMS". It was then re-named the "RED DRAGON" in 1929 (source: Glamorgan Gazette, 8/3/29) until it became in the 1980s the "MASTER BREWER"

10 High Street

(from 'Cowbridge Buildings and People', CRS publication 1998)

This inn, currently the Master Brewer, has also been known as the Butcher's Arms and the Red Dragon.

In 1843, this was one of Edward Ballard's many properties in the town; the publican was David Morgan, who is shown in the 1851 census as being in addition a butcher - one of those selling their meat from the stalls in the shambles, next to the Town Hall, as there were no butcher's shops in the town at that time. Morgan came from Llanblethian Farm, and had married an Ann Thomas in 1835; they had four children by 1840. By 1851, however, Ann had died and David had a second wife, Gwenllian - they lived in the Butcher's Arms until David's death in 1873, and Gwenllian continued running the public house to the 1880s. The owner by then was Lord Dynevor.

After this long period of stability in tenancy, there were some rapid changes. Thomas Loughor appears as publican in 1891, but by 1894 the licensee was Lewis Jenkins, of the Cowbridge Brewery, and then his widow Ann from 1897. Once ownership had passed (via John George, a coal merchant) to Hansard Brothers in 1900, and then to Thomas Morgan of the Pontyclun Brewery, there was a rapid succession of occupants, but Samuel Hayter was there for over 8 years, to 1912 - before moving across to the Horse and Groom.

One celebrated landlord in the mid-twentieth century, by which time the name had changed to the Red Dragon, was Jimmy Blair, the ex-Cardiff City goalkeeper.

Sources/abbreviations :

GRO Glamorgan Record Office

BR Burgage rents (GRO)

LTA Land tax assessments (GRO)

D/D Deposits held in GRO

Tithe, census, directories etc all in GRO

CRS Cowbridge Record Society (later merged with the History Society)