

Lindale's Inns

Lindale Inn, Lindale's 'Bottom House'. The earliest known records show a building at the bottom of the village. Known until at least 1914 as the **Commercial Inn**, the location was crucial for travelling through Lindale. Long before the bottom road to Grange was built after 1857, horse drawn coaches would call in for a drink and sustenance before tackling the infamously steep and difficult Lindale Hill. There may have been stabling for horses. It certainly provided accommodation for travellers, and there was access to the Lindale Beck for horses to drink. This access can still be seen above the Inn and site of the former smithy.



Old directories (Mannex) record Peter Allen as victualler (and posting) in 1851 & 1866, Thomas Akister in 1881, and Mary Birkett in 1914 (Bulmer's). In 1908, as the Commercial Inn, a Whitwell Mark & Co public house, it had two doors onto Lindale Hill. In 1926 Cope's directory lists Lindale Inn on the RAC list, proprietor H. Hoggarth. Grange Red Books also record H. Hoggarth as the victualler from 1936-1940. From 1947-48 Mr Houghton, 1949 WR Redman, 1956-7 R. Garnett, and 1972 Neville & Margaret Whiteside were the licensees.

Directory	Date	Commercial Inn Victualler	Details
Mannex	1851 & 1866	Peter Allen	Posting
	1881	Thomas Akister	
Bulmer's	1914	Mary Birkett	
		Lindale Inn Victualler	
Cope's	1926	H Hoggarth	
Grange Red Books	1936-1940	H Hoggarth	
	1947-48	Mt Houghton	
	1949	WR Redman	
	1956-7	R. Garnett	
	1972	Neville & Margaret Whiteside	
Hearsay	1978	Simisters	
	1980	Paul Wilkinson	Extended over Beck
		Nick Kirkpatrick	

Since the 1970s the Lindale Inn has had many landlords, and countless Lindale residents will have fond memories of happy times spent there, listening to live music, attempting the quiz, playing darts and pool. Around 2000 its buildings and car park were reorganised. An extension was built over the Lindale Beck,

which was culverted underneath. The Lindale Inn acquired a reputation for excellent meals and entertainment. Around 2005 you could hardly get into the place for the popular quizzes, and meals always had to be booked. However since its sale to the brewery, it has been on a downward spiral, and finally closed its doors in 2015. It is believed to have been bought by the adjacent Hadwins garage company, who reportedly wish to use its car parking space. The building sits quietly rotting. It is sad to see it in such a sorry state today.

Masons Arms, Old Lindale 'Square'



At this former meeting place, stood a **beerhouse, The Masons Arms**, now Mason House, halfway up the village. To one side was a fish and chip shop, very popular on Friday nights, and which reputedly had a dancing bear. There were shops on the other side. Fanny Brocklehurst's Old Dames' School at The Fold was near here. The Mason's Arms was run for many years by the **Keith family**, who also had a garage for carriages and drays. Around 1870-80 Peggy Keith took a cart to Kendal twice a week to bring supplies to sell in Lindale. An 1866 directory recorded James Keith as a carrier to Kendal. Mannex directories record William Coulton in 1866, Thomas Taylor in 1881 and Henry Keith in 1914 at the beerhouse.

Royal Oak, (Top House), lies at the top of Lindale Hill, where, in the past, horses could be changed, for the continuing hill on to High Newton, and some refreshments bought. Directories record victuallers as Peter Allen 1829, also mail car proprietor, Jas. Backhouse 1851, Martin Loy 1866, John Airey 1881 and John Lacey in 1914. A 1930s photo shows William Bailiff as the landlord. The sign above advertises 'accommodation to cyclists'. Grange Red Books record John Lacey as victualler from 1929-39, 1940 Miss Chenney, 1941-9 Mrs E Dacre, & Jim Fitzsimmons 1956-7, and later Sidney Ormrod. His son Ian stored his heavy Skania & Volvo wagons on the car park, and also below Tower View. The car park was formerly used for storing Ormrod's wagons.



<i>Directory</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Royal Oak Victualler</i>	<i>Details</i>
	1829	Peter Allen	Mail car proprietor
	1851	Jas Backhouse	
	1866	Martin Loy	
	1881	John Airey	
	1914	John Lacey	
Grange Red Books	1904		
	1928	William Bailiff	
	1929-39	John Lacey	
	1940	Miss Chenney	
	1941-9	Mrs E Dacre	1953 Ellerhow Cottage
	1953-4	Jim Fitzsimmons	Broomhill
	1972	Sidney Ormrod	
Hearsay		Ian Ormrod	



William Bailiff appears in quite a few Grange Red Books. He is recorded as living at London House Villa from 1928 to 1939, while E Bailiff was a Plumber, Painter and Window Cleaner from 1930-35. In 1930 W Bailiff was Secretary of the Lindale Friendly Society, which held Lodge meetings in Lindale School. In 1936 W Bailiff lived at Coronation Cottage, and in 1940 in Bay View. Margaret Cheney was recorded as living at 3 Broom Hill from 1956-7.

David O'Connor's aunt, Mrs Dacre ran the Top House from 1935-56. David was born there. She had about 4 rooms and accommodated London evacuees in the war. Many returned frequently after the war to see her. She advertised accommodation for cyclists. Many stopped for Bovril. She kept a tray of red Bovril mugs and Bovril cubes for cyclists. The Top House was very busy. After closing time at 10pm she would lock the door and everyone moved into her living room (now the kitchen) and she made food for everyone. It was all closely watched by the village policeman.

In May 1941 a land mine parachuted down on to Lindale. A pilot had wrongly marked Lindale as a target. It fell near Dun Hoy, on Lindale Hill. It was an incendiary and set Lindale on fire and blew out windows. It took 6 weeks before the windows were replaced at the Royal Oak. David remembers his aunt using the grey parachute silk in her sewing for many years afterwards. (Interview 12 August 2013).

Sylvia Woodhead March 2015

A footnote from Pat Rowland:

Manchester Times 22 June 1900 - William Allen was sent to prison for not maintaining his wife and 5 children. He had recently sold an inn at Lindale-in-Cartmel for £1604 and owned land worth £2000. 1891 census he was innkeeper and farmer of Commercial Inn. His wife was Margaret and they had 4 children. He was born in 1855 and was the grandson of Peter Allen the innkeeper at the Commercial Inn in 1861.

**Lancashire Evening Post 30 July 1920
Compensation for non renewal of licence assessed at £400 for Masons Arms, Lindale in Cartmel, licence expires on 18 Dec 1920.**