

## Coach and Horses Low Newton

This public house traded upto about 1860. It was located on the turnpike road between Levens and Ulverston, just north of Lindale in the hamlet of Nether Newton now known as Low Newton. It was run by the Barber family for about 50 years. The first advert to name it was in the Liverpool Mercury dated 14 September 1821 when it was named as a calling place for a new light post coach.

Samuel Barber held the licence until 1843 when his son took it over. Samuel and Francis were living in Flookburgh when their son Robert was baptised on 29 July 1810. Samuel had been born in Norfolk but Francis or Fanny was from Cartmel. They did not marry at Cartmel. They had at least one other son, Samuel. Both Samuel and Fanny lived long lives. Samuel was 87 when he died on 13 Dec 1854. Fanny was 92 when she died on 15 August 1864.

When Samuel ran the pub he hosted the annual Mayor's Hunt (Westmorland Gazette 26 Oct 1822; 25 Oct 1823; 30 Oct 1824) which featured an election of a mayor, a harrier trail chasing hare and wrestling. A couple of meetings of the Trustees of the Ulverston and Carnforth Turnpike Trust were held there (Westmorland Gazette 17 Oct 1829; 22 May 1830). Samuel was also a farmer and his ploughman took prizes at the Cartmel Agricultural Society Ploughing Contest (Westmorland Gazette 22 Feb 1840; Kendal Mercury 13 March 1841).

On 3 Dec 1842 son Robert married Jane Airey, daughter of John Airey, butcher of Fiddler Hall at Cartmel (Cumberland Pacquet and Ware's Whitehaven Advertiser 6 Dec 1842). The Kendal Mercury dated 18 Nov 1843 reported the licence transfer between father and son. The 1851 census record Robert as Innkeeper and farmer of 100 acres. At this date he and his wife had four children (Sarah, Robert, Samuel and John).

Robert continued his father's tradition of hosting events and Newton Sports which included a dog trail, wrestling, a trotting match and pigeon shooting followed by dancing 'til daylight did appear', was reported in Kendal Mercury dated 24 Aug 1844. This was probably the first Newton Sports as in 1847 (Westmorland Gazette 21 Aug 1847) this was reported as an annual event 'only established about 2 years ago'.

Robert was also a prize winning farmer. In 1845 he received a prize from the North Lonsdale Agricultural Society for the farmer or tenant whose sheep had eaten the largest amount of rape from the ground where it was grown (Carlisle Patriot 31 Oct 1845). In 1846 he won a prize for the best crop of potatoes from the Society (Westmorland Gazette 24 Oct 1846). He had planted potatoes on previously uncultivated land at Newton Moss, added farmyard manure and the crop was so good it was 'selling for 1s per stone and he had been offered £8 per ton from London' ( Carlisle Patriot 2 Oct 1846). According to the Society's judges it was the only potato crop that was not diseased. In 1848 he won second prize for the best breeding sow and 2nd also for the best managed farm (Westmorland Gazette 27 Oct 1848). However in 1849 he won 1st and 2nd prizes for the best breeding sows and was awarded the prize for the best managed farm (Westmorland Gazette 27 Oct 1849) . His farm was upwards of 100 acres and was 'well drained, admirably clean and in an exceedingly high state of cultivation'. It was 'greatly improved in the last few years' and he had straightened fences at his own expense. He had a good relationship with his landlord Mr Gibson.

Reports of Robert during the 1850s were not so good however. He was seriously injured when he was flung from his carriage after his horse had taken fright. The horse had darted into the gateway at Broughton Lodge, ran along the wall, breaking the shafts and throwing him a 'considerable distance'. He was badly bruised and there were concerns about his back. Mr Milne of Low Newton sent his carriage to take him home (Kendal Mercury 27 April 1850; Westmorland Gazette 4 May 1850). In 1852 he appeared in court accused of assaulting a man in Milnthorpe for which he was found guilty and fined £3 (Westmorland Gazette 27 March 1852). In 1858 at Cartmel Petty Sessions he was accused of serving drinks outside hours. He was described as a much-respected landlord who was known to almost everyone in the neighbourhood. The family connection with the Inn for 50 years was mentioned and that the respectability of it had never been questioned. His farming expertise was also commented upon. His solicitor Mr Taylor successfully defended him and the case was dismissed (Westmorland Gazette 10 July 1858). Another charge in 1859 of serving ale outside of hours was successful and he was fined £1 plus costs (Westmorland Gazette 14 May 1859).

Sometime after this the family moved to Summerhill, Ayside as the 1861 census records. Robert died here aged 50 in Dec 1861. Subsequent census show Jane and some of her children living in Witherslack. In 1871 they were at Halecat Cottage and in the 1891, 1901 and 1911 census at Netherhall, Witherslack. Jane died in 1891 aged 93 years.

I have not found any evidence of the Inn continuing to trade after Robert's court appearance in 1859. The building is now known as Newton House.

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