



PUBLIC HOUSES

THE GOLDEN LION

The Golden Lion is thought to be Houghton's oldest public house and originated as a coaching inn. The earliest records go back to 1824, however the pub is certainly much older. Indeed, large parts of the old building remain, such as the stables at the rear. The pub has a snug, a bar, backroom and small kitchen. A cellar room is located behind the bar and features a drain connected to the Houghton burn culvert. The upstairs is most unusual, with several rooms of different sizes, offering views out onto the Broadway and churchyard.



Some of the proprietors to have served time in the bar include:

1824 – Rev John Bulmer, Rev Edward Bulmer, Phillip Bulmer and Francis Louise Bulmer

1827 – John Welch

1829 & 1834 – John Welch

1841 – Thomas Surtees [tbc]



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1851, 1855, & 1858 & 1861 – Thomas Surtees, inn keeper. At this time it was common for notices to appear in the press, advertising auctions held by Mr Surtees in the Golden Lion.

1871 – Mark Jobling [tbc]

1881 – George Ambler [tbc]

1884 – A receipt lists Thomas Horton as Proprietor of the Golden Lion Commercial Hotel & Posting House

1890 – George Harding

1891 – Hugh Sydney

1894 – Hugh Hall

1901 – Robert Crofton

1911 – Thomas Gittens

1914 – John Stamp

1938 – Chas Maffey

1960s – Iris and Walter Pawley (moved to the Flighters at Herrington).

???? – Jen and Dick McCullough.

c1971/2 – Tom and Betty Barron (retired in 1973).

1973 – David and Jinny Walton.

c1974 – Joe and Rita Murray (from Edinburgh; moved to the Three Tuns, Broomhill).

c1975 – Vi and Terry Tunnicliffe.

???? – Charlie and Vi [tbc]

1996 – John Pender & Linda Murray were landlords between February 1996 and Christmas 1999. Vaux refitted the pub during their time.

1998 – advert – The newly refurbished Golden Lion.

1999 – 2000 – Diane and Chris Robinson ran the Golden Lion between October 1999 and July 2000.

Sept 2003 – tbc

???? – Vonna and Mark Hardy

Sept 2008 - Present – Paul and Rachael Thompson

2012 – The Golden Lion, 5 The Broadway, DH4 4BB, was advertised for sale in a Punch Taverns catalogue for £120,000. It was described as having a bar, a snug, a back bar, a small catering kitchen, and a five bedroom owner's maisonette on the upper floors and attic conversion, beneath a pitched tiled roof.



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TV's Coronation Street might have had Betty Turpin as a long-serving barmaid, but Houghton's Golden Lion has its own - Jean Holland, who joined the Golden Lion in June 1982 and celebrated her 30th anniversary in 2012. She was presented with a framed photograph by Houghton Heritage Society and was entered into their prestigious 'Heroes of Houghton' scheme which acknowledges long service in the community.

Paul Lanagan

PAUL LANAGAN BA HONS
LOCAL HISTORIAN
H-L-S HERITAGE SOCIETY



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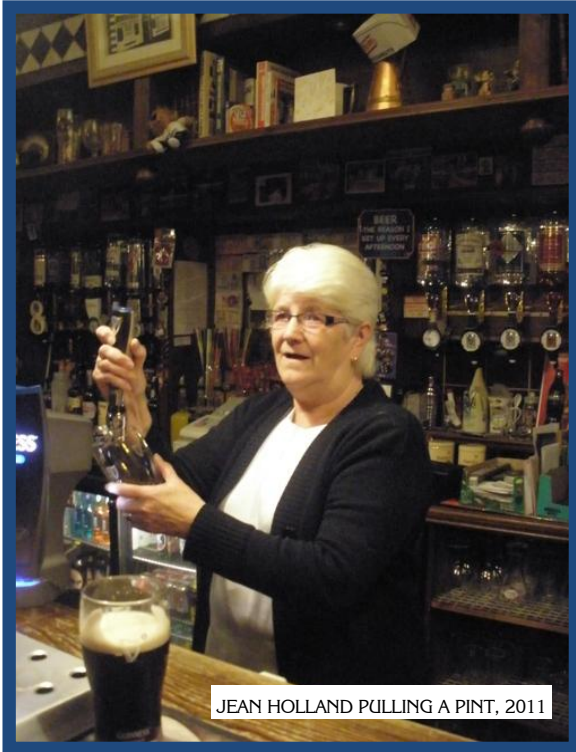
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



With thanks to Paul Thompson, publican, Rachael Thompson, Jean Holland, Linda Murray, Diane Salkeld/Robinson, and Ron Lawson, pub historian. Special thanks are extended to Dr Jack Morley, for trawling the censuses for publicans.

A special thank you is given to Carol Francis who cleared up an erroneous reference in the Journal of March 19th 2007 which incorrectly stated that Matt Roseberry owned the Golden Lion in Houghton and brought singer Rod Stewart there in 1973. It is now thought that this was the Golden Lion in South Hylton.

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