

# **The Hare and Hounds Levens, Cumbria Innkeepers (1714-present)**



The keepers of the Hare and Hounds Inn from 1714 onwards are listed in an illuminated manuscript that hangs on the wall of the lounge bar. Copies of this history, which is reproduced on the next page, can be purchased from the current landlord Colin Burrows, who kindly gave his permission for it to be reproduced here.

## The Hare & Hounds Inn

**1714** Anthony Prickett B.1690, D.1763. A Tailor, of Beathwaite Green in the Parish of Heversham, bought the property from James Nelson, also a Tailor, of Westminster in the County of Middlesex.

**1756** Anthony sold the property to his son, Christopher, who was 44 at the time and already in occupation as a husbandman.

**1762** Christopher died intestate and was succeeded as owner by his son, William Prickett of Sampool B.1744.

**1775** William Prickett sold the property to James Atkinson, his father-in-law. In the same year the property was resold to James Dowker of Kirkby Kendal, Gentleman.

**1781** James Dowker sold to Richard Hoggart, Gentleman, of Waltham Abbey, Essex. The first documentary evidence that the property was in use as an Inn occurs in this year with William Prickett in occupation as Innkeeper.

**1790** Richard Hoggart sold the property to Abraham Garnett, a Yeoman of Lyth, who owned various other properties in Beathwaite Green.

**1792** Abraham Garnett sold the property to Christopher, eldest son of William Prickett of Sampool, then an Ostler at Kirkby Lonsdale. William was therefore his son's tenant, and is referred to in contemporary documents as Innkeeper of the Hare and Hounds Inn.

**1806** William Prickett died aged 62. In addition to Christopher and another son, he had seven daughters.

**1811** Christopher, elder son and heir to William Prickett, sold to Richard Whaley of Dent for the use of William Thornton of Sedburgh. This is the end of the 97 years of the Prickett connection with the Inn.

**1817** Whaley and Thornton sold the Inn by auction for £103 at Kirkby Lonsdale to John Wilson, Husbandman.

**1829** John Wilson was in possession as Innkeeper.

**1840** John Wilson died and was succeeded by his daughter, Ann, wife of Nicholas Gibson, Yeoman.

**1850** John Robinson was Innkeeper and Tenant of Ann Gibson.

**1861** Dorothy Robinson, widow of John, became Innkeeper.

**1881** John Gibson found as Innkeeper and Hammershaftmaker.

**1897** James Atkinson became Innkeeper.

**1902** Ann Gibson, owner of the Inn, died at Walnut Tree House, Levens, at the age of 100.

**1904** John Thomas Bennett found as Innkeeper. Premises also referred to as a Posting House.

**1906** Ernest Yapp moved to the Hare and Hounds from Bridge End Garage.

**1911** John Cottam became Licensee. He had previously farmed Low Levens. His son, Jack, operated as Cattle Remover from here.

**1947** Vaux Breweries of Sunderland acquired the Whitwell Mark Brewery.

**1961** Margaret Jane Cottam became Licensee on her husband's death. She was popularly known as 'Old Ma Cott' and retired in 1967.

**1967** Arthur Stephenson was appointed Licensee. He converted the previous kitchen to the present lounge.

**1972** David Raymond Cavanagh did not stay long.

**1973** James Stephenson, native of Holme, was appointed Licensee. He converted the former beer cellar into the Cellar Bar and added the porch which encloses the Lounge and Cellar Bar entrances.

**1989** Patrick Joseph Dolan appointed Licensee. Pat and wife, Maggie, opened the beer garden, renovated the kitchen and improved the beer cellar.

**1995** Colin Burrow took over, installing a coal fire in the tap room and returning the Inn windows to their original design. In 1997 the Inn was a finalist in the Vaux Pub Food Competition.