

BEER, BUNS & B&B

No village is complete without its public houses, and Youlgrave, Alport and Middleton have certainly had their share. Over the years, some have become private residences, with little or no evidence of their former lives (or reputations), but Youlgrave still has three thriving pubs, all with a rich history of their own.



Pictured (left) is the George Hotel at the turn of the century.



THE BULL'S HEAD (above)

This old coaching inn has a wonderful carved bull's head (pictured below) crafted by 'Old Will' Shimwell. The door leading from the lobby to the toilets bears the date 1674.

In the Nineteenth Century the daughter of the landlord, Jane Shimwell, married Alexander McDougal, the inventor of self-raising flour.

THE GEORGE HOTEL

(above)

Originally named the Tig of Lead', its present name came into being around 1870-80, although it was not referred to as a hotel until 1941.

Local legend says that the stone steps outside the George Hotel were once used by Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall when she secretly met Sir John Manners, before famously eloping with him.



The Bull's Head, which over-looks all who go into the pub yard



THE BATEMAN ARMS, MIDDLETON

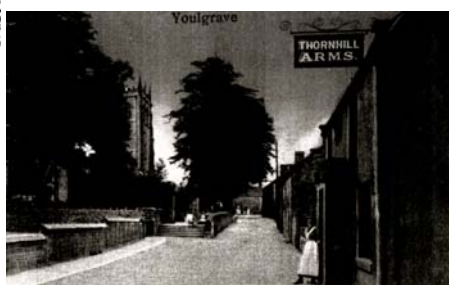
(above)

Amongst those which have since become private residences, is 'The Bateman Arms' in Middleton, which was closed in 1918. Set in the heart of the village, it remains one of the village's most prominent buildings.

THE FARMYARD INN (above)

Opened as an alehouse in 1829 by the Rowland family, it was originally, as the name suggests, the site of a farm and outbuildings. Today, amongst its many claims to fame, is the fact that it is the home of the local Boules Club.

In the 1890's, the Farmyard was run by William Walter whose brother, Frederick Kenworthy, kept 'The Thornhill Arms'.



THE THORNHILL ARMS, ALPORT LANE

(left)

Situated opposite the school in Youlgrave, the Thornhill Arms' is now known as 'Thornhill House'. Renamed three times, this public house was originally known as 'The Marquis of Granby' in 1829, and then The William the Fourth' in 1846. In 1887 it took the name 'The Thornhill Arms', which it kept until it ceased trading, just before the Great War.



THE BOARDING HOUSE, ALPORT (left)

As the villages changed over the years, with mine closures etc., fewer people were employed locally and the number of public houses declined.

The Boarding House, which stood by the bridge, was demolished in the 1930's when the main road was widened and straightened.

In a Nation of Shopkeepers . . .



YOULGRAVE GARAGE

The garage used to belong to the Prince family. Pictured (above) are Peter Prince with staff, James Fryer and Michael Illot, manning the pumps in 1951.



Today the business is in the capable hands of the Elliot family (pictured above) with employee Giles Prince, grandson of Peter and just as handsome as his grandfather!

YOULGRAVE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY (left)

The Co-op was formed in 1870 by Joseph Shimwell of Old Hall Farm, Tom Birds of Hall Farm and Joseph Smith. The existing building went up in 1877.

The Co-operative supplied electricity from 1910 until the nationalisation of the industry.

In 1920 it amalgamated with the Matlock branch to form 'Derwent Valley Co-operative Society Ltd'.

The store stopped trading in 1968 and later became Youlgrave Youth Hostel.



EATERIES

Meadow Cottage Cafe (below) offers walkers and villagers alike refreshment from hot and cold drinks -to sandwiches and soup.



At present, the Fish and Chip Shop (right) is closed and for sale. We all hope to see it operational again soon.

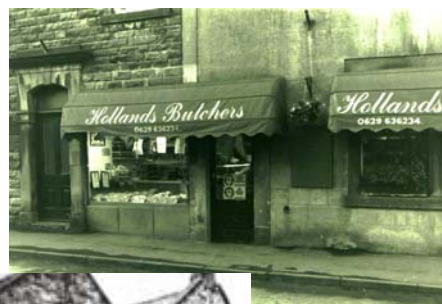


The number of shops in Youlgrave seems to be rapidly decreasing. As the few we're lucky to still have struggle to keep their heads above water, we must try to use them as much as we can. Here are those still open for business.

Rose's Newsagents (right) is another business that is currently on the market, though thankfully, it is still trading.



Rose's Newsagents (above) and the Post Office (below) manage to continue to provide the village with their services with help from the visiting tourists. They each carry a fine selection of gifts, guide books and confectionery. Papers are still delivered by the newsagents and banking facilities and dry-cleaning services are offered by the Post Office.



BUTCHERS

Youlgrave used to have three butcher's shops. Harry Hall traded in a shop by the Fountain until his death in 1977.

Today the remaining two, Parker's (above) and Holland's (above left) have become general grocers too, enabling people to obtain everything they need without leaving the village.