Talbot Arms, Uplyme

Research Notes by Graham Davies, 2021.

Trade Directories:

Randall, William, **Talbot Arms**, Uplyme, 1839-44
Randel [Randall], Charles, **Talbot Arms**, Uplyme, 1851-52
Turner, Henry, victualler. **Talbot Arms**, 1878-1893
Hales, Arthur, **Talbot Arms**, 1902
Hyde, Howard, **Talbot Inn**, 1914
Restorick, Richard James, **Talbot Arms** PH. 1919

Western Gazette, Saturday, 21 March 1863.

Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and Princess Alexandra of Denmark were married in St George's Chapel Windsor on Tuesday 10th March 1863.

The Western Gazette reports how the village of Uplyme, in East Devon marked the occasion:
*Uplyme - Loyalty is by no means at a discount in this parish. A hearty celebration took place here on Tuesday last. Subscriptions were raised and an abundant dinner of beef and other meat and plum pudding was provided at the **Talbot Arms**, of which between 200 and 300 of the working male inhabitants were partakers. The Rev C W Ethelstone [Ethelston], the rector, and R Talbot Esq, of Rhode Hill House, were present and addressed the numerous company in a very kind manner. After dinner the women and children of the parish were treated to tea, cake, and bread and butter at the Talbot Arms. "God save the Queen" was sung, and the greatest enjoyment characterised the proceedings. The unfavourable state of the weather prevented the carrying through of several rustic games which were intended.*

Extracts from The Story of Uplyme – The Uplyme Women's Institute 1956, revised 1982, reprinted 1991.

*….. The horse-bus from Lyme to Axminster is believed to have been running by 1880. Two trips were made daily in each direction, and this service continued until the opening of the railway. Many stories are told about this vehicle, and how, in the early days of bicycles, the driver was challenged by a cyclist to a race from Hunter's Lodge to the **Talbot Arms**. It is said that the bicycle covered the distance in three minutes, while the bus took six!*

*….. Years ago, Good Friday was the only holiday in the year for farm labourers, and on that day there was Maypole dancing at Donkey's Green, a clearing beside the Landslip Path, just within the Uplyme parish boundary. More recently, the great event of the summer was the Club Fete, always held on Whit-Tuesday. The day began with a church service, then the members of the Uplyme Friendly Societies formed a procession, with the mounted Foresters in front, and the Oddfellows and Rationals following — a handsome red and gold banner being carried on high. Led by the Lyme band, they marched through the decorated streets, before going into the Club Field (next to the **Talbot Arms**), where the Fete took place. A dinner was served in a large tent — joints of beef and trays of puddings being brought over from the hotel. In the afternoon there would be sports, Aunt Sally, and various sideshows. In later years the races and amusements would be held on the cricket-field, where the children sometimes performed a Maypole dance.*

….. The estate of Rhode Hill was formed by Admiral Sir John Talbot K.C.B., who, coming to Uplyme about 1815, bought much of the land in the parish, and became Lord of the Manor. Although he had served under Nelson in his youth, and had had a distinguished naval career, Sir John preferred to retire to the country while still young — it is said that the position and surroundings of Rhode Hill had first

attracted him when seen from the Channel. When he bought it, it was simply a large farmhouse and he quickly took to farming, the ploughing being done with bullocks; while the house was enlarged by Lady Talbot, and, later, was converted into a handsome residence by the wife of John R. C. Talbot, who succeeded on the death of his father in 1851. Many rights of common and wayside land were held by the Squire and, until about 1913, a Court Leet was held annually at the ***Talbot Arms****, when the tenants on the estate came to pay their rent, and officials such as the special constable and hayward were elected. After these proceedings there was a large dinner. The hayward was in charge of the Manor Pound (on the site of Pound Cottage) where straying animals were shut up until redeemed for a few pence. When A. J. Woodroffe, having married the Admiral's granddaughter, bought the estate (but not the Lordship of the Manor) he demolished many rooms, but the house was still large enough to be used as a Red Cross Hospital in the First World War, with Mr. Woodroffe as a very interested Commandant. Rhode Hill saw his son's coming-of-age in the 1920's splendidly celebrated, with parties for family and friends, and tenants, and staff – the schoolchildren having theirs in the Village Hall.*

Bridport News, Friday 22 January 1886.

UPLYME
VOLUNTEER BALL – The members of the Uplyme division of the 15th Battery H.A.V., held their annual ball on Friday evening last. It was this year held, by the kindness of the Rector, in the village school-room. The room was nicely cleared and decorated for the occasion in military style, and much praise is due to the following committee who undertook every arrangement - Sergeant Hitchcock, Gunner Brewer, Butter, and Stocker. Bandmaster Pitfield and bandsman Swaffield provided the music, and Mr Turner, of the ***Talbot Arms****, was caterer for the refreshments. There were 70 persons present, and an enjoyable time was spent, the party breaking up in the small hours.*

Western Times, Friday, 7 January 1927.

UPLYME – Subject to a slight alteration, Axminster Magistrates, Tuesday, approved of plans for re-building the ***Talbot Arms****, Uplyme, which was the scene of a fire some time ago.*

Devon & Exeter Gazette, July 3, 1926.

FIRE AT **TALBOT ARMS** – *As exclusively reported in our late editions yesterday, the* ***Talbot Arms*** *Hotel, Uplyme, near Lyme Regis, was destroyed by fire in the early hours of the morning. The garage of the hotel was burned down last week, when, it will be remembered, the hotel was saved largely through beer and cider being poured on the flames.*

The occupants – Mr Frederick Tomlin, the licensee, his wife, son and daughter, and two visitors – were awakened about 2 o'clock by a crackling noise, and had just time to escape in their night attire before the flames, leaping from the basement, involved the building. They had to leave all their belongings behind, and these were destroyed. The Axminster Fire Brigade were called, and, in view of the danger of three cottages nearby being involved, the Exeter Fire Brigade were summoned by telephone. Within 45 minutes of receiving the call the Brigade were on the scene, under Superintendent Pett. The damage is estimated at about £3,000. Both the licensee and owners of the property are insured. A theory of the outbreak is that an oak beam had smouldered since the previous fire.

Western Times, Saturday, 1st March 1834.

Lyme Regis - On Saturday last, William Rattenbury, Robert Orley, and two Frenchmen, were landed here from the Swallow, revenue cutter, and taken to the ***Talbot Arms****, Uplyme, where they were tried before Sir John Talbot, and John Hussey Esq, on information laid against them, under the 49th section of the last Smuggling prevention Act. Mr Rutherford appeared on behalf of the Crown, and called a*

number of witnesses for the purpose of proving the guilt of the prisoners by a chain of circumstantial evidence. Some papers which were said to have been found on a jacket lying on a heap of tubs of smuggled spirit on the beach, were then offered in evidence by the learned gentleman. Mr Flight, who with Mr Hillman, defended the prisoners, objected to these papers being received in evidence, they not having been shown to be in the handwriting of either of the prisoners, or at all connected with them. Sir John Talbot decided that the papers could not be received in evidence. After a patient hearing the prisoners were acquitted.

Exeter and Plymouth Gazette, Saturday 3rd July 1841.

UPLYME INCLOSURE

I HEZEKIAH BARTLETT GUY, of Hinton Saint George, in the county of Somerset, the Commissioner named in and appointed by an Act of Parliament passed in the 4th year of the reign of her Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled, "An Act for inclosing Lands in the Parish of Uplyme in the county of Devon," do hereby give Notice, that I shall hold my first meeting for executing the powers vested in me by the said Act, on Monday the 12th day of July next, at 12 o'clock, at noon, at the house of William Randall, called the ***Talbot Arms****, situate In the parish of Uplyme aforesaid, at which meeting the majority in value of the Proprietors of the said Lands then present, are to approve of some person or persons to be appointed banker, with whom all monies to be raised and received by virtue of the said Act shall from time to time be deposited,*
Dated 12th June, 1841

Bridport News, Friday 27th November 1896

UPLYME - The annual Court Leet and Baron, together with the half yearly rent audit of Mr J R F G Talbot, of Rhode Hill, lord of the manor of Uplyme, was held as usual at the ***Talbot Arms*** *on Wednesday last. After the business was concluded the members of the Court and tenants dined together, under the presidency of Mr E R J Talbot, a substantial repast being provided by Host and Hostess Turner, - the usual and patriotic toasts were honoured, and the Chairman proposed "The health of Mr H Sansom," who had attended the Court as bailiff for over 40 years, - Mr Sansom replied, and "The Host and Hostess" concluded the list. - Several songs were sung by members of the company, and a very pleasant evening was spent.*

Western Times, November 22nd 1907.

UPLYME - The rent audit and Court Leet of the Manor of Uplyme was held on the 13th inst. The Lord of the Manor (Mr T R C Talbot) presided, and was supported by Mr Coventry (estate steward), Mr J Copp (Court Reeve), Messrs W Hodder, H & T Irish, G Hodder, R Baulch, F Saunders, Champion, R H Brewer, W and S Selway, and others.

A capital dinner was supplied by Host Perham, of the ***Talbot Arms****, and a very pleasant evening was spent by the company, which numbered about thirty.*

LRM Research Team – Uplyme Slide Show 2019.

The 'Old Rectory', including outbuildings and gardens amounting to eight acres, was sold by auction on February 22, 1935, at the ***Talbot Arms****, for £2,350 to Mr C Stapleforth of the Queen's Arms, Charmouth.*

It became the Devon Hotel. A new rectory was built in Rhode Lane in 1936-37.

Research Team's Digital Archive.
Reference found to the Uplyme Friendly Society in 1841, **Talbot Arms**.
The Society may have been dissolved in 1901.

Lyme Regis Guide Books.
The **Talbot Arms** Hotel, Uplyme, Prop Mr & Mrs D P Leaver, 1959
Prop Mr & Mrs R E J Turner, 1970

Pulmans Weekly News, December 22, 1857:

*The strong man, Mons Gregoire, exhibited his strength at the **Talbot Arms**, Uplyme on Tuesday last. His feats of human strength included breaking into pieces immense hard stones and a thick cast iron wheel box, and carrying three powerful men and four half-hundred weights round the room.*

Pulmans Weekly News, January 12, 1858.

*Uplyme - On Wednesday last, the tenth annual supper was held at Rendell's [Randall] **Talbot Arms** Hotel. 'Nearly thirty sat down, amongst whom were some of the most respectable yeomen and inhabitants of Uplyme, also many gentlemen and the principal merchants of Lyme, who invariably, every year, favour Mr Rendell [Randall] with their company at his Christmas merry-making'.*
The spread was excellent served up in mine host's usual good style. 'After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal, patriotic and other toasts were drunk and enthusiastically responded to'.
The health of the Rev Charles W Ethelston, Reginald Talbot Esq, and mine host, and his aimable and much respected housekeeper, were proposed and very warmly received.
Several songs were sung and the company enjoyed themselves until a late hour.

Pulmans Weekly News, May 25, 1858:

*Uplyme - Today will be celebrated the anniversary of the Uplyme Friendly Society. 'Mine host' of the **Talbot Arms** is making every preparation, which, in addition to the dinner, includes a spacious marque in a field nearby, and a band to which 'Devonia's fair daughters may trip the light fantastic'.*

Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and Princess Alexandra of Denmark were married in St George's Chapel Windsor on Tuesday 10th March 1863.
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Uplyme Electoral Register 1929:
Sloman, Tom & Mabel, **Talbot Arms** Hotel
Pain, Miss Amy Louisa, **Talbot Arms** Hotel

Uplyme Electoral Registers:

Buckland, Marie & Stewart, Talbot Arms Hotel, 1972-75

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Uplyme Inclosure 1841

Western Times, Saturday, December 4, 1841

*To be sold by auction, by Mr Couch, at the **Talbot Arms** Inn, in Uplyme, in the county of Devon, on Thursday, the 9th day of December next, at three o'clock in the afternoon, (subject to such conditions as will be then and there produced) the following pieces of land, being parcels of certain lands directed to be divided, allotted, and inclosed, by an act of Parliament, passed in the fourth year of the reign of her Present Majesty, intituled, "an act for inclosing lands in the parish of Uplyme, in the county of Devon," in the lots hereunder mentioned, viz, ……...*
GD – The Western Times then described the 30 lots of land put up for auction.

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Whites Devon Directory of 1850 – Uplyme:

The parish is a suburb of Lyme Regis and comprises 1057 inhabitants and 3149 acres of land. The manor of Uplyme was anciently held by Glastonbury Abbey, and afterwards passed to the Drake and Tucker families. The Hon. Sir John Talbot, Admiral of the Blue, is now Lord of the Manor, and owner of a great part of the parish. He has a handsome seat called Rhode Hill House. Robert Bourcher Wrey Esq. of Ware Cliff House, James Davidson Esq, and the Rev. C W Ethelston MA., have estates in the parish. The latter is also patron and incumbent of the rectory. The glebe is 35 acres, and the Rectory House is a handsome residence, which was enlarged and much improved in 1838, when the tithes were commuted for £461 5s per annum. The church
(St Peter & St Paul) is an ancient structure with a remarkably low tower. The Methodists and Baptists have chapels here. In this parish was born the skilful geographer Nathaniel Carpenter, who published several learned works.

Adams, John, schoolmaster
Boon, James, woolstapler
Brockway, Jas., victualler. Hunters Lodge
Ethelston, Rev Charles Wicksted, MA, Rectory
Gribble, Mrs E P
Hallier, Gabriel, victualler, Black Dog
Marshall, Wm, parish clerk
*Randel, Charles, victualler, **Talbot Arms***
Rhodes, Rev E Duncan, BD, sinecure rector of Ermington, Woodhouse
Talbot, Admiral Hon Sir John, KCB, Rhode Hill House
Wrey, Robert Bourchier Esq., Ware Cliff House

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Random Recollections from David Coates – Jack Thomas, Uplyme Church Parish News, July/Aug 2015:

*' I came to Uplyme in 1963, the time of the great snow and lived for 20 years in Yawl Hill lane, before I moved to Janvrin, where I am now, named after Peter Ransford's niece. I used to walk down the hill to where Cook's Mead now is and there was a pretty pond. I rode on the last journey by the Bluebell Train from Axminster to Lyme dressed in Edwardian costume. I used to see the Cotleigh Hunt meeting at the **Talbot Arms**. The Rev. Lionel Seale, the Rector, lived in the Rectory, later the Devon Hotel and now Rohaise Court. There were four shops in the village, two of them butchers, one of whom was run by a man*

called Irish. In what is now Venlake End, there were no houses but a pond. The Roost in Springhead road was a guest house. In the old village hall by then a bit decrepit I put on several playlets……...

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The Gables, 13 Church Street, Lyme Regis – Research Team website article:

*Henry Randall was born in 1842 at the **Talbot Arms**, Uplyme where his father, William, was the inn keeper. William Randall brought his family to Lyme Regis, circa 1848, to become the inn keeper of the Golden Hart Inn situated in the Butter Market (19th century name for the lower part of Church Street). In 1868, Henry married Harriett Anne Baulch from Chard. The 1871, 1881 and 1891 census records described Henry Randall, his wife Harriett and son Henry, living in the Butter Market, with Henry's occupation as joiner, builder and house builder respectively.*

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