

PORTSMOUTH PUB NEWS ARCHIVE 2007:

25th Dec 07:

The Victory on The Hard, Portsea is due to reopen shortly with an emphasis on cask ales. This follows a long period of closure and a subsequent refurbishment and is good news for Portsea - a district which has suffered a general decline in quality pubs in recent times.

25th Dec 07:

Portsmouth's latest pub, the Fat Fox, has now opened on Victoria Road South. See the Pub Reviews page for full details.

16th Dec 07:

Beer from Portsmouth's new Irving Brewery has been sampled by the Webmaster in the Hole In The Wall, Leopold Tavern and Dolphin Inn (all on Portsea Island) in the last week. The ale is highly recommended.

3rd Dec 07:

The Webmaster is pleased to report that the application to replace the Mayflower with nine houses has been refused by the city planners.

2nd Dec 07:

The Wonkey Donkey and Black Bar on Victoria Road South are currently rumoured to be undergoing conversion to a new live music venue.

25 Nov 07:

The Mayflower, Highland Road, is now closed and boarded, with a secure fence erected around the site.

15 Nov 07:

The Webmaster is sad to report that the battle to save the Three Crowns has now been lost following this week's decision by the Head of Planning at the city council to allow the demolition of the pub to go ahead. It can only be assumed that Portsmouth City Council have little or no regard for our pub heritage. The Webmaster would like to extend his thanks to all those who sent objections to the Planning Office.

15 Nov 07:

The Jubilee Tavern on Jubilee Terrace is now reported as having been sold delicensed, awaiting conversion to offices. Yet another of the city's traditional locals bites the dust after having survived since Victorian times.

14 Nov 07:

More disturbing news has come in the form of an application to build houses on the site of the attractive Mayflower pub on Highland Road, Eastney. This involves the demolition of the pub, designed by renowned local architect T E Owen. Please forward your objections to the city council by following the link on the Portsmouth Pubs main page. Your support to help save the Mayflower shall be much appreciated. Thank you.

11 Nov 07:

Wetherspoon has applied for permission to install a retractable awning to provide shelter for drinkers and smokers outside the Isambard Kingdom Brunel on Guildhall Walk.

8 Nov 07:

More bad news for the Portsmouth pub scene has come in the form of the City Council's decision to allow the owners of the Grade II listed Market House Tavern to convert the premises into a doctors/vets surgery. Another historic pub therefore bites the dust, leaving even fewer hostelrys in this part of town.

3 Nov 07:

The Webmaster has received disturbing news regarding the former Guardsman on Fratton Road. It would appear that the roof has been removed and the premises is rumoured to be undergoing demolition, despite the planning permission to convert the premises to housing only stating that the rear extension was to be demolished. The site is a listed building, which it may turn out is a worthless designation.

2 Nov 07:

Fullers has withdrawn its application to erect a gazebo in the garden of the White Horse, Southsea Terrace.

15 Oct 07:

Fullers has been given permission to erect a pergola to the rear of the Stag, New Road.

13 Oct 07:

The Eldon Arms, Eldon Street, Southsea is available for lease through Enterprise Inns.

13 Oct 07:

The Cabman's Rest, Plymouth Street, Somerstown is available for lease through Punch Taverns.

11 Oct 07:

Enterprise Inns has applied for planning permission to construct an outside terrace with retractable parasol at the Dragon, St George's Road, Old Portsmouth.

9 Oct 07:

Planning permission has now been given to convert the former Albany pub on Commercial Road into a Northern Rock bank premises.

1 Oct 07:

The application by Drum Housing Association to demolish the former St Mary's Arms and its neighbouring properties on St Mary's Road, to erect 49 flats, has rightly been refused by the Chief Planning Officer after dozens of objections were received by the council.

26 Sep 07:

The Jubilee Tavern on Jubilee Terrace is presently closed, with its leasehold for sale through Garner Wood. Telephone 023 9262 9000 or email property@garnerwood.co.uk for details. It is unsure whether the pub is to be leased as a going concern.

20 Sep 07:

SUCCESS! The planning application to convert the Jameson Arms, Church Road, to flats has been thrown out by the city's planning department. The Webmaster would like to pass on his thanks to fellow objectors to this inappropriate application. Thank you very much.

20 Sep 07:

Fuller Smith & Turner has applied for planning permission to erect a first floor extension at the Bridge Tavern, Old Portsmouth. If accepted, this shall project over the existing flat roofed area to the north elevation.

19 Sep 07:

The licensees of the Florence Arms, Florence Road, Southsea have turned back the clock by relaunching the pub as a cider house. The public bar now stocks fifty ciders - six of which are on draught! Brands are rotated and sales are reported as very good. Real ale fans can still choose from four cask beers - one of which is a monthly guest. Good news indeed!

19 Sep 07:

The Fifth Hants Volunteer Arms on Albert Road, Southsea and the Stag, New Road, Copnor are due to have new signage and external lighting fitted. This shall likely see both pubs be rebranded in Fuller's livery, as the London brewer continues with a gradual eradication of the Gale's branding from its aquired pubs. Let's hope that the Gale's name isn't consigned to the history books too quickly, as it has been a feature of Portsmouth's pub liveries for well over 150 years.

17 Sep 07:

The Osborne, Osborne Road, Southsea, is due to reopen in early October. The pub has been taken over by the licensee of the Leopold Tavern on Albert Road, who aims to initially offer three real ales (which shall increase if demand allows). A good selection of wines, spirits and keg beers shall also be on offer, along with a food menu. Further information shall be posted in due course.

13 Sep 07:

An application has been made to the city planners to convert the Market House Tavern, Mile End Road, into a doctors'/veterinary surgery. This follows an earlier refusal by the council to allow the owners to expand the premises to improve the Bed & Breakfast facilities. Please object to this latest application by following the link on the Portsmouth Pubs homepage. Your support is most welcome.

31 Aug 07:

Earlier fears that the Dolphin, High Street, Old Portsmouth, was to be converted to a restaurant have thankfully been allayed. The pub has now reopened and serves eight ales from independent breweries, with the addition of a menu featuring French

cuisine.

30 Aug 07:

As mentioned below, Portsmouth's proposed new Irving's Brewery, due to begin test brewing in September from a site on the Railway Triangle Industrial Estate at Farlington, hopes to have beers available some time in October. Owner Malcolm Irving has revealed to the Webmaster that the brews shall suit the palate of those who enjoyed drinking Gale's former beers. Ales will be given nautical themes, though the Webmaster is choosing not to reveal names at this point. Please support Malcolm's ales once they begin to appear in our pubs. The Webmaster shall post further updates regarding the brewery's progress as things take shape.

30 Aug 07:

The Dragon, St George's Road, Old Portsmouth is seeking permission to construct an outdoor terrace and retractable parasol.

29 Aug 07:

The Three Crowns on St James's Street, Portsea now looks doomed following an application to demolish the premises and build flats on the site. To object to this application, please contact the Planning Department of Portsmouth City Council before 21st Sept 07, quoting reference 07/01582/CON, or go to the Closed Pubs 2 page and follow the link.

16 Aug 07:

The Webmaster has been contacted by the owner of a new brewery, which shall shortly be opening in Portsmouth. This is a most welcome development, as the city has now lost all of the five microbreweries that were in production on Portsea Island during the mid 1990s. More details to follow soon.

16 Aug 07:

A planning application has been submitted to convert the Jameson Arms, Church Road, Fratton into six flats. The frequency of pub closures across the city is becoming a cause for concern. To object to this application, contact the Planning Department of Portsmouth City Council quoting reference 07/01546/FUL before 8th Sept 07. Alternatively, visit the Pub Details J-L page and follow the online link.

14 Aug 07:

The owners of the Market House Tavern, Mile End Road, have been refused planning permission to construct a two storey extension to the pub.

13 Aug 07:

The Osborne on Osborne Road, Southsea is presently closed following the eviction of the former licensee. Enterprise Inns is currently seeking a new lessee for the pub.

7 Aug 07:

The Sovereigns on Kingston Crescent has submitted a revised application to erect three large parasols and extend the paved area outside the premises.

4 Aug 07:

Punch Taverns has applied for planning permission to construct a smoking canopy to the rear of the Traveller's Joy on Milton Road.

23 Jul 07:

The Trafalgar Arms, Fratton Road, is available for lease through Enterprise Inns.

23 Jul 07:

The Clarendon Tavern on Clarendon Road, Southsea is presently available on a ten year lease from Punch Taverns.

20 Jul 07:

The Sovereigns on Kingston Crescent has applied for permission to extend the paved area outside the pub and install three large parasols to provide an external sheltered area.

19 Jul 07:

Planning applications have been submitted regarding the construction of a two storey extension to the Market House Tavern on Mile End Road, to be used as residential accommodation.

19 Jul 07:

The Grave Diggers, Highland Road, Southsea, has applied for permission to erect a smoking canopy to the rear of the house.

19 Jul 07:

The Hog's Head on Palmerston Road, Southsea has now been rebranded as part of the Slug & Lettuce chain by owners Laurel Pub Company.

19 Jul 07:

A planning application has been submitted to the council for the reinstatement of the listed doors and windows that were damaged by the recent fire at the former Air Balloon on Flying Bull Lane. This is a welcome development, which is certain to be approved, and should see the originals be replaced with near-identical reproductions.

19 Jul 07:

The George Inn on Portsdown Hill Road is now open all day every day.

17 Jul 07:

Wetherspoon has been given permission to erect a glazed canopy over the Spring Street entrance to the Trafalgar on Edinburgh Road.

17 Jul 07:

Enterprise Inns has applied for permission to construct a smoking canopy in the garden of the White House on Eastney Road, Milton.

17 Jul 07:

Fuller's is seeking planning permission for the erection of a freestanding gazebo in the front garden of the White Horse on Southsea Terrace.

16 Jul 07:

The Dolphin, High Street, Old Portsmouth is soon to close its doors for the final time after trading for hundreds of years. It is reported to be undergoing conversion to a French restaurant.

16 Jul 07:

The Leopold Tavern on Albert Road, Southsea shall be closing on 23rd July for a refit (lasting approx ten days). The pub shall reopen with an emphasis firmly on real ale, with six beers available including seasonal offerings. A cask cider and a good range of malt whiskies is also promised. Watch this site for a full review soon.

15 Jul 07:

The Coach & Horses, Hilsea is currently undergoing yet another refurbishment, despite having a vast amount of money spent on it less than three years ago. The external signage has been removed.

9 Jul 07:

The Florist on Fratton Road, Buckland is presently shrouded in scaffold whilst it receives an external facelift.

9 Jul 07:

The Victory on The Hard, Portsea is presently closed whilst refurbishment and building alterations take place.

9 Jul 07:

The Blue Anchor, London Road, North End, has received permission to erect a gazebo over the existing patio area to the rear of the house.

9 Jul 07:

The Artillery Arms, Hester Road, Milton, has been given planning permission to construct a decked area, with pergola, to seat twenty people at the rear of the pub.

9 Jul 07:

PWP Architects are to restore the fire-damaged Air Balloon, continuing with plans to convert the premises to apartments.

23 Jun 07:

Southern Counties Taverns has been granted permission to erect a smoking canopy in the rear garden of the Newcome Arms, Newcome Road.

23 Jun 07:

J D Wetherspoon plan to erect a glazed canopy over the Spring Street entrance to the Trafalgar.

23 Jun 07:

Fuller's has applied for permission to erect a pergola over the rear patio of the Stag on New Road.

17 Jun 07:

The Old House At Home, Milton, has been given planning permission to erect a covered canopy to the side elevation.

10 Jun 07:

Southern Counties Taverns has applied for permission to erect a covered smoking canopy to the rear of the Lord Chichester on Chichester Road, North End.

28 May 07:

The Albany on Commercial Road may be converted into a Northern Rock bank premises, with flats above, if planning permission is granted by the city council.

28 May 07:

JD Wetherspoon has been granted permission to build a covered, glazed canopy over the rear entrance of the Sir John Baker, London Road.

28 May 07:

The Artillery Arms, Hestor Road, Milton has applied for planning permission to construct a covered pergola at the rear of the premises.

23 May 07:

The Grade II listed former Air Balloon on Flying Bull Lane, Mile End was badly damaged by fire on the evening of 22nd May following a suspected arson attack. If beyond restoration, this will be a terrible loss to Portsmouth's heritage. A sad day. See the Closed Pubs 2 page for full details.

21 May 07:

Permission has been refused for the demolition of the former St Mary's Arms on St Mary's Road, Fratton.

9 May 07:

The Three Crowns, St James's Street, Portsea is currently closed "until further notice" following its recent sale.

9 May 07:

A correspondent reports that The George on Queen Street, Portsea is no longer operating as a public house.

1 May 07:

Planning permission has now been granted to convert the former Guardsman pub on Fratton Road into two residential properties. Whilst the loss of this historic pub is unfortunate, it is hoped that a sympathetic conversion shall help secure the future of this listed building.

26 April 07:

A correspondent of the Webmaster's reports that the Mary Rose, St George's Road, Old Portsmouth, looks to be undergoing conversion to a Chinese restaurant.

18 Apr 07:

Fuller Smith & Turner is awaiting a decision regarding the installation of two awnings outside the Old Customs House, Gunwharf Quays.

16 Apr 07:

The Ship Leopard on The Hard, Portsea is now closed pending conversion to flats.

12 Apr 07:

Greene King has applied for permission to construct an 'external Georgian walkway' to the rear of the Star & Garter on Copnor Road.

12 Apr 07:

Fuller's has been refused permission to install a retractable awning at the White Horse on Southsea Terrace.

12 Apr 07:

Southern Counties Taverns has applied for permission to build a smoking canopy in the rear garden.

26 Mar 07:

The old Dog & Duck on Fratton Road is presently for sale, even though planning permission has been granted for conversion to a pub/restaurant.

26 Mar 07:

The Jubilee Tavern on Jubilee Terrace is currently available for lease.

22 Mar 07:

The Spirit Group has submitted a planning application to construct a new decked area at the Coach & Horses, Hilsea, together with an extension to the kitchens.

20 Mar 07:

The Gravediggers, The Magpie and the Clarendon Tavern are all available for lease from Punch Taverns.

14 Mar 07:

Fuller's has submitted more planning applications, this time for the construction of a pergola over the patio areas at both the Golden Eagle on Delamere Road, Southsea and the Stag on New Road, Copnor.

14 Mar 07:

The Market House Tavern on Mile End Road is currently closed whilst refurbishment work is undertaken. Accommodation is still available. A review of the reopened pub shall appear on these pages soon.

9 Mar 07:

Fuller Smith and Turner have applied for planning permission to construct covered external smoking areas at the Druids Arms, Binsteed Road and the Wine Vaults, Albert Road.

23 Feb 07:

The Oakwood on Northern Parade now has new licensees.

23 Feb 07:

The India Arms reopened today and has been refurbished to a high standard. Read the report on the Pub Reviews page.

23 Feb 07:

The Still and West, the Bridge Tavern, the Jubilee Tavern and the Ship Anson have all submitted planning applications to erect various forms of external weather protection for the use of smokers, due to the impending smoking ban in enclosed public spaces.

19 Feb 07:

The Webmaster has been contacted by the licensee of the India Arms, Great Southsea Street, who has provided details of the pub's refit. I am happy to report that the premises is to reopen shortly as a traditional public house, with the emphasis on its 'India' name and the days of the Raj. It looks to be an exciting project.

13 Feb 07:

The city council has granted conditional planning permission to Fuller's to carry out internal building alterations at the Still and West Country House, Bath Square, despite neighbours' concerns regarding the likelihood of increased noise levels from the first floor area when live music is performed.

24 Jan 07:

The Farmhouse on Burrfields Road has submitted a planning application to construct a canopy at the front of the premises.

22 Jan 07:

Fuller Smith and Turner has submitted a planning application to construct a covered lean-to over the existing outside seating area at the front of The Brewers Arms on Milton Road, Milton.

22 Jan 07:

The former Blue Anchor on Queen Street, Portsea, has at last been demolished after standing empty during recent years.

22 Jan 07:

The Park Tavern on Edinburgh Road, Landport, currently has it's lease for sale. The pub remains trading.

22 Jan 07:

A planning application has been submitted to convert the Air Balloon on Flying Bull Lane, Mile End into eight flats. Whilst this is an unfortunate end to one of the city's most attractive pubs, it is better than demolition. The premises is a listed building, so external alterations will thankfully be few if the proposal goes ahead.

17 Jan 07:

Yet another planning application has been submitted to demolish the Town House on Portland Road, Southsea and replace it with a block of 32 flats. Hopefully this application will be thrown out, as the previous three already have.

3 Jan 07:

Planning permission is being sought to demolish the boarded-up St Mary's Arms on St Mary's Road, Fratton, together with the adjacent building. The fact that they are situated within a conservation area may lead to the application being denied. Let's hope so.

3 Jan 07:

An application has been submitted to carry out alterations to the Victory pub, on The Hard, Portsea. This includes the resiting of the main entrance.