The Carnarvon Arms



The Carnarvon Arms stands on the crossroads at Fackley, a hamlet in the parish of Teversal. It was originally called the Cross Keys and became the Carnarvon Arms circa 1870. The property was part of the Teversal Estate belonging to the Earl of Carnarvon and was sold in 1919 to Hardy and Hansons Kimberley brewery. Greene King, the present owners, acquired the property when they bought Hardy and Hansons in 2006.

The Roper family lived and worked here for much of the 19th century. In 1832 Hannah Roper was the 'victualler' of the Cross Keys and by 1841 her son James Roper had become the landlord. By 1876 Cleopas Roper, James' son, had taken over the running of the public house and he continued to live there until 1900. In 1901 the People's Refreshment House Association Ltd (PRHA) became the licensees. The PRHA was started in 1896 by the temperance movement and encouraged public houses to serve food and soft



drinks and provide accommodation to travellers. To curb alcohol abuse the pubs were run by managers who were paid commission on the sales of food and soft drinks but not on alcoholic drinks.

The west wing of the building, the part standing nearest the road, is late Georgian and is dated 1793 whilst the middle section is believed to be earlier, probably early to mid 18th century and here the original beams are still visible. The south wing, which extends into the car park, is Victorian in style and was added in



1901. In 1936 an extensive refurbishment involving alterations and additions including the curved front entrance with an off sales bar at the centre, a lounge bar, an extension to the rear of the building and the famous Ship Room. Further alterations in 1949 included the opening up of the west wing and the installation of toilets adjacent to the public bar. The latest refurbishment in 2008 has brought together the west wing, south wing and curved front entrance into one interconnected space with the bar relocated to serve all areas. The Ship Room has been preserved

The Ship Room has been lined with wood and built to look like the interior of an old galleon with portholes and slanting walls and with old barrels for seats. According to local legend the timbers used came from the stern of a sunken French galleon which was salvaged by Lord Carnarvon. In reality architects Warner and Dean of Sutton-in-Ashfield drew the plans for the 1936 alterations, which included the Ship Room, and the timbers came from a local builders yard!



The D H Lawrence connection with Teversal is well known and Teversal

Manor was considered to be the inspiration for Wragby Hall, the home of Constance Chatterley, in 'Lady

Chatterley's Lover'. The book was first published in 1928 - several years before the ship room was built – so
dispelling another popular myth that this was where he penned the novel.