

8. IN AND AROUND ANGLESEY STREET

Anglesey Lodge

Anglesey Street takes its name from Anglesey Lodge, one of the oldest buildings in the area. It was built in 1831 by Edmund Peel. He was the brother of Sir Robert Peel, the famous British Prime Minister who founded the Metropolitan Police Force.

During the summer months, Edmund would bring his family to the Lodge. He kept race horses in the stables there and went riding on Hednesford Hills. However, after the death of his trainer and then a riding accident, Edmund lost his love of horses, and by 1840 the Lodge had almost been abandoned.

By 1851 Anglesey Lodge had once again become a training stables and employed eleven stable lads and a groom. With the coming of the Cannock Mineral Railway to Hednesford, the Lodge became a hotel. It was run by Margaret Eskrett, whose husband Thomas used the stables for horse training. The hotel was later turned into a public house. The stable blocks have been demolished and the Lodge's main building is now in private use.



A Sunday School Demonstration on the lawn of the Anglesey Hotel, probably around 1910.
Image courtesy of Ray Smith

The Electric Palace can be seen here on the right, next to Anglesey Lodge. This postcard was published by J Bird, a local hairdressers. At a time when postcards were used as a form of quick communication - local shops and businesses often produced their own postcards.
Image courtesy of Ray Smith



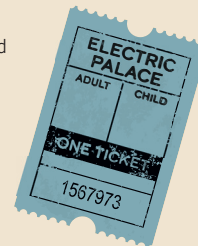
Picture Palace and Anglesey Hotel, Hednesford.

The 'Tins'

Towards the end of the 19th century, the recreation ground at the Lodge became the base for Hednesford Town Football Club. The team became known as the 'Tins' because of the metal sheeting around the ground. When they outgrew this ground they moved to the Cross Keys Inn, about a mile away.

The roller-skating rink and cinema

In 1910 a roller-skating rink known as The Rink was opened on the opposite side of Anglesey Street. Soon it started showing films, and in 1912 it changed its name to the Electric Palace. Dances and other types of entertainment were also held there. Then, in 1932, it changed its name to The Tivoli, and operated wholly as a cinema.



This Hednesford roller hockey club played at The Rink, which was on the opposite side of Anglesey Street.
Image courtesy of the Museum of Cannock Chase

“ One local lady recalls:
I remember going to the Tivoli, usually on a Saturday morning, for the 'twopenny rush'. I used to watch characters like Abbott and Costello, the Three Stooges, the Marx Brothers, Flash Gordon and Roy Rogers. Afterwards I would go to Elsmore's chip shop in Market Street to get 2d worth of chips. ”

EXPLORE AND DISCOVER

Honi soit qui mal y pense

On the right of this photograph, you might be able to spot an unusual wall plaque, set into the brickwork. It can still be seen today. It is not known who put it up or why it was made.



Image courtesy of Ray Smith

The motto reads:

Honi soit qui mal y pense which means Shame upon he who thinks evil of it. This has been the motto of the Order of the Garter for hundreds of years. The Order of the Garter is the highest honour the monarch can bestow on someone, and, in addition to the Prince of Wales and the ruling monarch, there are only twenty-four Knights of the Garter at any given time.

The shield that surrounds it is the royal standard of Queen Victoria, which could mean that the plaque was put up some time before her death in 1901.



Much of the information on this board has been provided courtesy of Anthony Hunt