

The Angel Inn

The history of Saltfleetby St Peter's lost Victorian Pub



Situated on the Main Road just over half a mile east of the crossroads, the Angel Inn was a thriving public house for about a 100 years or more. It was used as a meeting place where the local Lords of the Manor would collect annual rent due from their tenants. It also hosted meetings of local landowners regarding the payment of tithes to St Peter's parish clergy.

Henry Hewitt Plumtree and his wife Jane (nee Gilbert) from Salmonby ran the pub in the 1820s, their eldest son Henry was born here in 1827 and baptised at St Peter's church in January 1828. In 1830 they moved to Tetford where they ran a Butcher's shop and had a further 5 children. The Angel was then briefly occupied by Abraham Hay from Great Carlton and his wife Elizabeth (nee Pogson) from Horncastle, who had previously been publicans in Tetford. They moved on to be proprietors of public houses in Holten le Clay and Tetney. Mr Hay's brother, David continued to live in a cottage in Saltfleetby St Clements. The next tenant of the pub was Mr Drewry, before it was let to the **Denniss family** in 1833 who remained as innkeepers for the next 38 years.

Thomas Denniss was born in Beesby, Lincolnshire in 1798, and moved with his family to Saltfleetby St Clement when he was about 9 years old. He married Frances Cotton from Louth at St Peter's Church in 1824. Their children Henry, Edward, Charles, George and Frances were all born in Saltfleetby and grew up at the Angel. They also farmed the adjoining land, initially 10 acres, acquiring more, until their farm covered an area of 30 acres by 1871.

SALTFLEETBY, near LOUTH.
To be LET, and entered upon immediately, or at
May-day next,
THE old-established PUBLIC-HOUSE at SALT-
FLEETBY known by the sign of the ANGEL, with a
Garden, and 10 Acres of excellent Pasture Land in three
pieces, adjoining the house.—A tenant in any trade
would be preferred.
For further particulars apply to Mr. Drewry, the
present tenant. *Saltfleetby, 9th April, 1833.*

The Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury, 12th April 1833

Auctions of local farmland, property and commodities were frequently held at the Angel, conducted by solicitors from Louth. Public meetings were also held there to discuss local issues such as the the inclosure of Saltfleetby North Ings in 1836.

Sale of valuable ASH POLES, at SALT FLEETBY, near LOUTH.
 To be SOLD by AUCTION,
 By Mr. D. BRIGGS,
 At the house of Mr. DENNIS, the Angel Inn, SALT FLEETBY, on Thursday, 23d of Dec., 1847;
 ABOUT 50 lots of MAIDEN ASH POLES with the Tops on, now felled and allotted for Sale; and may be seen any time prior to the sale by applying to Mr. Thos. Dennis, at the Angel Inn. Sale to commence precisely at Four o'clock.
Oxcombe House, 9th Dec., 1847.

The Lincolnshire Chronicle, 17th December 1847

SALT FLEETBY ALL SAINTS.
 To be SOLD by AUCTION,
 By Messrs. JACKSON,
 At the Angel Inn in Saltfleetby St. Peters, in the county of Lincoln, on Monday the 21st December instant, at Four o'clock in the Afternoon, subject to such conditions of sale as shall be then produced,
THE following very desirable FREEHOLD ESTATE, situate in SALT FLEETBY ALL SAINTS, in the said county, comprising a substantial and convenient Brick and Tiled Messuage or Dwelling-house, with the Yard, Garden, Cow-house, Stables, and Out-buildings thereto adjoining, situate on the Turnpike-road leading from Louth to Saltfleet, together with the following Closes of superior Arable, Meadow, and Pasture Land, lying next to the same, all in a ring fence, viz.

	Cultivation.	Quantity.	A. R. P.
The Paddock and Gardens...	Pasture & Garden	1 3 6	
Home Piece	Arable.....	2 0 0	
Seed Piece	Pasture	1 3 26	
Homestead	Ditto	6 2 12	
Hills Close.....	Arable.....	1 2 9	
Total.....		13 3 13	

Mr. William Harrison, the tenant, will show the premises; possession of which will be given to the purchaser at Old May-day next, and further particulars may be obtained on application at the office of
MESSRS. PYE and WAITE,
Louth, 7th Dec., 1840.
 Solicitors, Louth.

The Lincolnshire Chronicle, 18th December 1840

Mr and Mrs Denniss also hosted sporting events and dinners at the Angel, with such attractions as pigeon shoots, donkey races and foot races to win generous prizes!

Mrs Denniss's older sister, Miss Elizabeth Cotton, lived with them from the 1850s and assisted with the pub. Both ladies were well-known and admired for their cooking and skills as hostesses, making the Angel a favourite venue for social gatherings. These included annual meetings of Saltfleetby's Bachelor Society, which ran for over 20 years. Meetings of the village's farmers and tradesmen were also held annually. which included enjoying a "first-rate" supper prepared by Mrs Denniss, before the toasts were given.

PIGEON SHOOTING, Angel Inn, SALT FLEETBY.
T. DINNISS begs to inform his friends that his PIGEON SHOOTING will take place on MONDAY the 17th inst., at which time the much-talked-of Match for 10l. will come off.
 A good supply of Birds, Powder, and Shot for other Matches.—Various Rural Sports will be held, viz., a Donkey Race for a new Bridle; a Foot Race for a new Hat; and other Sports too numerous to mention.
 Mr. Mitchell's Van will leave the Three Tuns Inn, Louth, at 9 o'clock, with Passengers. A second Van will leave the same Inn, at 11 o'clock, after the arrival of the train leaving Hull at 8-20 and Grimsby 9-45.
 Dinner on the table at 4 o'clock.

Stamford Mercury, 7th May 1858

Bachelors' Society.—It appears that the bachelors, and another class called the "Fumblers," of Saltfleetby, have formed themselves into a society for the purpose of meeting together once a year, when an opportunity is given them either for congratulation or condolence, as these worthies may consider their several cases may deserve. Thursday the 2nd inst. was the day on which the last anniversary of the society was celebrated, on which occasion about thirty members and friends partook of an excellent dinner at Mr. Dennis, the Angel inn. After dinner the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were given, speeches on the virtues and blessings of celibacy were delivered, and the hilarity of the entertainment was kept up until a very late hour; so very late, that none but bona-fide bachelors would have dreamt of stopping.

The Lincolnshire Chronicle, 10th December 1858

Pigeon Shooting.—A match for ten pounds was contested on Monday last, at Saltfleetby, by eight gentlemen, four against four, and was won by that division which was partly named by Bostonians, to the discomfiture of the one entirely composed of gentlemen of the neighbourhood. The shooting was altogether very good, few birds evading their destiny; in fact some of the competitors did not waste a shot. A large and respectable company attended to witness the sport, most of whom afterwards sat down to a first-class dinner provided by the hostess of the Angel inn.

The Lincolnshire Chronicle, 21st May 1858

Frances died in 1871 age 76, and Thomas in 1872 age 74. They were buried at Great Carlton, St John the Baptist churchyard.

The Angel was then taken over by the Barker family.

William Barker was born in Saltfleetby St Clement in 1813, he married Mary Houlty from Greetham in 1839. The couple lived in Scamblesby and Asterby where they had a large family of 11 children.

In 1872 William and Mary were publicans at the Angel Inn before passing the business on to their son and retiring to South Cockerington. William died in 1892 age 79, and Mary in 1899 age 86.

The Barkers were initially tenants at the pub. At this time it was owned by the Bishop of Melbourne, Australia: The Right Reverend Field Flowers Goe, whose family owned property in area.



Rev. Field Flowers Goe (1832-1910), the Bishop of Melbourne and owner of the Angel Inn, Saltfleetby

Portrait by Talma & Co, circa 1890s
© National Portrait Gallery, London

—William Barker, of the Angel Inn, Saltfleetby, All Saints, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 8th ult. Needham, a small farmer, was proved to have been in the house seven hours, and was in drink when he went there. P.C. Thurlby proved the case. Fined 14s. 6d., including costs.—

The Hull Packet and East Riding Times, Friday 27th June 1879

By 1881 Evison Smith Barker was running the Angel with his wife Eliza (nee Enderby) from Kirmond le Mire, Lincolnshire. The couple lived at Gayton le Wold, then Pinchbeck before moving to Saltfleetby with their 5 children: Alice, William, Eliza, Jane and Jessie. They had a further two children at Saltfleetby: Charles in 1882 and James in 1884. A family business, their children helped run the pub and serve customers, as well as run the small adjoining farm.

—All the existing licences were renewed, including that of the Angel, Saltfleetby, the property of the Lord Bishop of Melbourne, Australia.

Nottingham Guardian Journal, 29th August 1889

The son of the Mayor of Louth, a solicitor, also called Field Flowers Goe, Rev. Goe was born in Louth in 1832 and grew up on Bridge Street. He attended King Edward VI school, then Hertford College, Oxford. He was ordained a priest in 1858 and began his career working as a curate at Hull. Here he met and married Emma Rogers Hurst from Doncaster. They lived in Sunderland and Bloomsbury, London where he took up posts as rector in the Church of England.

They moved to Australia when he was appointed the 3rd Anglican Bishop of Melbourne in 1886. During this time Emma suffered a long illness, passing away in 1901. There is a memorial plaque dedicated to her in Melbourne Cathedral.

Rev. Goe retired soon after his wife's death and returned to England, living in Wimbledon. He died in June 1910, and is buried in Louth cemetery.

Following the death of Rev. Goe, the pub, with over nine acres of pasture and arable land, was put up for sale and bought by the innkeeper, Evison Barker for £545.

In 1911 James Fowler Barker was running the pub alongside his parents. Eliza died in Saltfleetby in 1912, age 70. Evison retired to live in Louth where he died in 1920 age 77, having passed his pub on to his son, James.

In SALTFLEETBY ST. PETERS.—LOT 2.	
197—All that fully-licensed Public-house, known as the Angel Inn, with Out-buildings, Yard, and Garden378
202—Close of Land, Rich Feeding	3.135
241—Close of Land, Rich Pasture	3.427
247—Close of Land, Arable	2.608
Tenant, Mr. E. T. Barker.	
	9.548

The Lincoln Rutland and Stamford Mercury, 2nd September 1910

The Angel Inn, Saltfleetby St. Peter's, with pasture and arable land, 9,548 acres, was bought by Mr. E. S. Barker, the tenant, for £545.

Nottingham Guardian Journal, 8th September 1910

James Barker joined the army in the First World War and served as a driver with the Royal Army Service Corps at Park Royal in London. His civilian profession was listed as "innkeeper". In January 1919 he was discharged after sustaining an accidental injury of a broken ankle.

Returning to Saltfleetby, he continued to run the Angel Inn. Its licence was reported as lapsed in February 1922, and it closed permanently at around this time.

James went to live on North End Lane where he worked as a general farm labourer. Later in life he used a wheelchair after illness resulted in the amputation of a leg. He lived with his niece Olive North, a poultry farmer, on North End Lane. He died here in 1950 age 67.

At Louth County Brewster Sessions yesterday, Superintendent Skinner reported that there were 23 licensed houses in the division, or one to 422 of the population. The licences of the "Angel" at Saltfleetby and the "Raven" at Louth Park had lapsed. Five persons had been proceeded against for drunkenness, and four were convicted. The existing licences were renewed.

The Sheffield Daily Telegraph, 9th February 1922

Farmer Mr C. Winter occupied the old Angel Inn building as a private residence in the 1940s. Here he kept Friesian cattle, ducks and other livestock. In November 1947 a sale took place of Mr Winter's stock, by auction at the Old Angel Inn.

The building later become derelict and was sold for demolition in January 1972, advertised for £700 or nearest offer.

SALTFLEETBY. The Angel. Large brick built house subject to demolition order. £700 ono.

Grimsby Evening Telegraph Friday 14th January 1972

The Angel bungalow was built in place of the old pub on The Main Road. Today the only thing still remaining from the inn is the old lamp post in front of the bungalow.