

### **Disorderly conduct at the Burrell Arms in 1888**

Alexander Macgregor Stewart and John Ward, a couple of well known tramps, were charged with vagrancy at West Grinstead, on 21st inst.; a further charge was made of disorderly conduct and refusing to quit the Burrell Arms. Stewart was also charged with assaulting Police Sergeant Stillaway and Ward with resisting the police while in the execution of his duty. Mr W.E. Erith, schoolmaster at Dial Post, said he saw the men some few yards away from the Catholic Church on the evening in question, when they asked for relief and threatened him with violence, as they knew that the parsons and schoolmasters had all the money. He gave something to Stewart who, with his companion was in liquor, and giving information to the police, subsequently identified the men as those who had molested him. A witness named Alice Botting, living at the Burrell Arms, West Grinstead, said that both men came to the public house in an intoxicated condition and she requested them to leave, as they were very noisy. Stewart doffed his coat and challenged a gentleman to fight, but was afterwards put out of the house by a man named Castledine. Police Constable George Carter apprehended prisoners about half a mile from the Burrell Arms, having been appraised of their behaviour by Mr Erith, and on searching them, when in custody, he found 5d on one man and 6d on the other. On bringing the men to Horsham Sergt. Stillaway asked the men at the police station what their names were, but Stewart refused to impart the information. On telling them to go to the cells, Stillaway touched Ward on the shoulder, where upon Stewart turned round and kicked the Sergeant violently on the leg. He was then forcibly removed. Ward was sentenced to 7 days' hard labour on each case, and Stewart was remanded until Saturday.

From The Horsham Advertiser and Mid Sussex News, 26th May 1888  
***Discovered by Herbie Whitmore***