Sutton Mandeville





NEW HOTEL REPLACES FAMOUS HOSTELRY

In pursuance of their policy of modernization of their houses and the provision of up-to-date facilities for the public, Messrs Eldridge, Pope & Co., the well-known Dorset Brewers, have erected an entirely new hotel to replace the old thatched "Cribbage Hut" a noted rendezvous in the Wiltshire village of Sutton Mandeville.

The Cribbage Hut is said to have derived its name form soldiers of long ago resorting to the place for card games. It seems to be agreed that there has been an Inn on the site for some 600 years, although the present premises are not as old as that. An alternative theory concerning the derivation of the name is that it was the meeting place for neighbouring squires ostensible to play cribbage, but really to hatch plots for the Jacobite cause. It is referred to as a great haunt for smugglers, who, about 1800, used to bring kegs of spirits over the Downs.

THE NEW BUILDING

The new hotel, for which the architects were Messrs Petter & Warren, of Yeovil, is built on an open site adjoining the existing building, commanding fine views on all sides. Every care has been taken to preserve the amenities of the countryside. The hotel has a public bar, smoke-room, lounge and ample dining room, provided with kitchen, servery, and sculleries all fitted with the most modern appliances to enable meals to be served in comfort. There

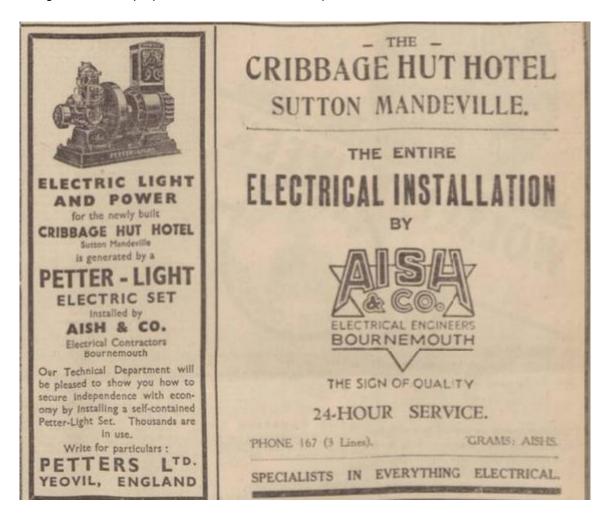
is also a private sitting-room for hotel guests and five double bedrooms for letting purposes. The whole building is heated by a most modern system of heating, and all bedrooms are provided with running hot and cold water.

The building is finished externally with stuccoed walls from a brick plinth, and the central feature on the front elevation is constructed with solid oak half-timber work. The roof is covered with reddish brown tiles.

Provision is made on the west side of the building for a tea garden, and there is ample car park and garage accommodation.

The lighting is in modern lines, the electric supply being generated by a standard Petter 100-volt battery-charging set, having a capacity of 3 kilowatts, capable of lighting 40 to 50 lamps. The whole of the electric installation was carried out by the well-known firm of Messrs Aish & Co. of Bournemouth.

Mr A. T. Spencer (a member of a well-known family in the district), who has been for a number of years proprietor of the Cribbage Hut, will be proprietor of the new hotel. Telephone: Fovant 20



(Western Gazette - 15 March 1935)