

The Markhouse Arms



The *Markhouse Arms* Public House was at 33, Queens Road on the corner of Union Road.

The known licensees were:

21/9/1872 Edward Genever

01/8/1885 Celia Genever

1/12/1894 Walter J Crowe (Who was the sole executor to Celia Genever)

14/12/1895 Edward Geo Genever (Son of Edward and Celia)

1901 Walter Crowe – A Beer Retailer age 48 together with his wife Annie Crowe, age 42 and son Bertie Crowe

1902 Walter J Crowe - A Beer Retailer

? I don't know the licensees between these dates

1936-1946 Thomas Mercer (Father in law of Herbert Thorp – Inferred from information below and the date at Thomas Mercer was at *the Tidal Basin* PH)

1946- 63 Mr & Mrs Herbert Thorp

From: <http://pubshistory.com/EssexPubs/Walthamstow/MarkhouseArms.shtml>

“Just off Markhouse Road in Walthamstow is the *Markhouse Arms*, and there for the last 17 years have been Mr and Mrs Herbert Thorp. The *Markhouse* is their second house, and they took over the licence in 1946, following Mrs Thorp's parents, who had moved into the pub shortly after it had been rebuilt in the mid-thirties.

Mr and Mrs Thorp's first pub was the *Lea Tavern* in White Post Lane in Hackney, which they took over in 1939, just before the outbreak of war.

When the war started, Mr Thorp worked in his old trade of boiler maker in the London Docks helping to repair ships and also joined the Home Guard in which he was stationed at the docks.

Mrs Thorp looked after the *Lea Tavern* in the meantime, and suffered an unfortunate experience of having the pub blitzed during the latter part of the war. They both vividly remember the hardships of running a pub during the wartime.

Although the Thorps have been in but two houses, Mrs Thorp's parents, the Mercers, were in the trade 45 years holding the licence at the *Old Sydney Arms* (now closed), the *Falcon* in East India Dock Road and the *Tidal Basin Tavern*, Mr and Mrs Thorp were married, and later moved into the *Lea Tavern* at about the same time as her parents took the *Markhouse*. Today, many of Mrs Thorp's relatives are still in the trade, one of the pubs in the family being the *Rest* at Kenton.

Herbert Thorp was a very active sportsman in his younger days, being particularly keen on cricket and football. For a number of



years he played in the LV North v South of Thames cricket matches. Nowadays he occasionally watches Essex, but is a firm supporter of West Ham United and seldom misses a home match. Although not watching Essex much, he still takes a lot of interest in the County, and this season is raffling a bat autographed last year by Essex, Lancs, Glamorgan, Surrey, Worcester, Gloucester and the Pakistanis in aid of Bill Greensmiths benefit.

Anybody going into the *Markhouse* would be struck by the fact that not only darts, but also shove ha'penny and cribbage are played regularly in the house.

Mr and Mrs Thorp have a family of three, two daughters, now married, and a son who is an apprentice with The Times.

Kindly provided by Alex Wilkinson”

The *Markhouse Arms* (Along with Union Road) disappeared in the mid 1960's when Kelmscott Secondary School was built.

Bill Bayliss May 2015