

Ca 1900 At the Borough Police Court

William Davies, landlord of the Railway inn, Cowbridge, was before Alderman Edward John, Colonel Tyler and Mr F W Dunn on Tuesday on a charge of permitting drunkenness on the 17th September.....

The evidence of P C Evans was that hearing a noise in the house at about ten o'clock at night, he remained outside for a quarter of an hour and then went in to find a well-known character named John Sullivan sitting at a table dressed in a soldier's red coat and with his nose in a glass of beer. Sullivan was almost helplessly drunk, and he drew the landlord's attention to his condition. Defendant replied that he had not supplied Sullivan with any beer and that the glass in front of him belonged to someone else.....Five minutes later Sullivan left by the back door, his red coat having been exchanged for an ordinary one, and when he got to the road witness heard someone in the yard say 'Don't go down that way, Jack. He's standing outside'. Sullivan passed him however and went down High Street to the Commercial Hotel which he entered, being immediately turned out by the landlady. Sullivan refused to go home.....taken to the Police Station.

.....Mr W Bevan and Mr Govier, the landlord of the Commercial Hotel, dressed Sullivan in the red coat and took him to the Railway inn as a lark.

Mrs Govier of the Commercial Hotel said Sullivan was at her house on this evening from half past seven until nine. Mr W Bevan was also there and he obtained the red coat from the servant girl. Bevan, Sullivan and her husband then left the house together. Sullivan returned about half-past ten and she ordered him out because she thought he had had enough. She did not consider him drunk; she had seen him worse.

William Davies and Evan Warren gave evidence of seeing Sullivan drunk between 10 and 11 o'clock on the night in question.

.....Bevan said...he considered a man drunk when he got hold of a lamp post and could not get away.....Case dismissed.

John Sullivan fined 2s 6d....must not get drunk again. Defendant : 'No sir, I won't' (Laughter).