

A Brief History of the Falcon Manor Hotel ...



The Falcon Manor as we know it today was built in 1841 for the Reverend Swale with money provided by his two grandmothers, who made a deal with the church to donate £500.00 to the new Settle church if their grandson could be the first incumbent. Until this date Settle had been a part of the parish of Giggleswick. The Falcon was not built as a vicarage as such, but as a private dwelling for the Reverend Swale. At the time it was built it was named Ingfield Hall after the field it was built on. It is not certain when the name changed to the Falcon, but it was not until after 1921.

The main reception area used to house a large fireplace. The main staircase is the original, and during the last war when the RAF was using the building it was boxed in plywood and therefore remained undamaged. All the doors off the main staircase are original and during the hostilities just mentioned they were stored in a vault at Morecambe.

In 1911 an addition to the building was the billiard room built by a son of the Reverend Swale. Today known as the Rafters Room, it is used as a small dining room or conference room. Downstairs, the gent's toilets used to be the butlers and the silver store and ladies toilet used to be the pantry. The bar lounge used to be the old kitchen. The bar was in three rooms, which were the scullery, the wash house and the laundry, which was at the bottom. The Cocktail Bar used to be the Reverend's study/drawing room. The Ingfield Room/Dining Room was at one time in two halves, split by pillars. The first half was the lounge and the second half a dining room, and the kitchen was a breakfast room. The Coach House was built about 1850-60 as stables. The centre was living quarters for the coachmen, to the left was a three horse stable, immediately above was the feed loft with Shute's, and to the right was a hay store.