

## Waterlooville

The story is that a group of soldiers from Waterloo stopped at a wayside inn for refreshment and the inn changed its name to Waterloo – probably not!!!

See Steve Jones *The Early Years of Waterlooville 1810-1910*, Havant History Booklet No.55 see [www.hhbkt.com](http://www.hhbkt.com)

The turnpike from Portsmouth to Petersfield, through the Forest of Bere, was managed by the Portsmouth Sheet Turnpike Trust, authorised by an Act of Parliament in 1710, one of the earliest Trusts in the country, necessary because of the requirements of the naval port at Portsmouth.

The road, (*roughly the old A3*) crossed a track from Havant to Hambledon (*roughly the present B2150*) and subject to an Act of Parliament that allowed the enclosure of part of the Forest of Bere, land was sold to meet the costs of bringing parts of the forest into managed land. What was attractive about the area at the crossroads is that the land was extra parochial; that is was not part of a parish and therefore any purchaser was not liable to the payment of tithes, land tax or poor rates. Thomas Fitzherbert bought two allotments of over eleven acres and in February 1814 sold on three acres to Charles Matthews, a Portsea Brewer.

Noting the advantage of the site and its convenience as a potential first/last stop on the turnpike Charles Matthews built an inn calling it **Heroes of Waterloo**; news of the success of the battle coincided with the completion of the building in 1815. The inn became the focal point for further development and the area around was referred to as “Waterloo”.

The earliest addition of ‘Ville’ comes in an official notice dated 28 May 1832 that refers to “*The Extra-Parochial proprietors of the Waterloo Vil*”, (Jones p. 29), an addition that may have been dictated by the Post Office to differentiate it from the Waterloo in London and in Liverpool. (Mike Hill *The Postal History of Waterlooville*, Havant Borough Historical Pamphlet No. 38 p. 17. It was not until 1858 that the area was designated the civil parish of Waterlooville.

“By 1835 there were 16 coaches running between Portsmouth and London and the inn had room for 24 horses.” (Jones p. 28).

By 1860 the town had inns including **Heroes of Waterloo, Wellington, and Belle Alliance**.

In 1890 Gales Horndean Brewery, who had bought Heroes in 1860, demolished the inn and replaced it with a Waterloo Hotel, and in 1966 this was demolished for the shopping centre. Gales rebuilt the Hotel as a pub and called it Heroes. It stands about 300 yards north of the original and is run by Fullers and can be seen from the A3 by-pass.