

# MENU

## STARTERS

- Bread and Olives (v) (vg\*) 7.50  
 Panko Prawns with a sweet chilli dip 7.50  
 Mac & Cheese Croquettes with salad (v) 6.75  
 Pate of the Day with chutney and brown toast 7.50  
 Blue Cheese Pate with chutney and brown toast (v) 7.50  
 Salt and Pepper Calamari with garlic mayonnaise 8.00  
 Wild Mushrooms with spinach and bacon on toasted garlic sourdough (v\*) (gf\*) 7.00

## VEGETARIAN & VEGAN

- Plant Based Burger 12.50  
 served with chips and relish (vegan)  
 add vegan cheese (1.00) or dairy cheese (1.00)  
 Mixed Vegetable Curry 12.50  
 with rice, naan, poppadum and mango chutney (vegan) (gf\*)  
 Homity Pie 12.00  
 Cheese, onion and potato pie served with dressed salad (v)  
 Tagine Pie 13.50  
 A vegan pie made with parsnip, butternut squash, cranberries and chestnuts.  
 Served with chips and salad  
 Vegan Fish and Chips 13.00  
 Banana blossom deep-fried in vegan batter.  
 Served with garden peas or mushy peas and chips

## JACKET POTATOES & SANDWICHES

Served with salad and coleslaw. Sandwiches are served on granary bread. Choice of filling

Cheese and Chutney 9.00	Bacon and Blue Cheese 9.50
Cheese and Beans 9.00	Bacon and Cheddar 9.00
Local Ham 9.00	Bacon and Brie 9.50
Tuna Mayonnaise 9.00	Prawn and Marie Rose 9.50
Brie and Cranberry 9.00	Beef Chilli and Cheese 9.50 (jacket only)

## PUB CLASSICS

- Homemade Burger 13.00  
 served with chips, coleslaw and relish (gf\*)  
 add Cheese (1.00), Bacon (1.00), Cornish Blue Cheese (1.50)  
 Local Ham with two eggs, chips and peas (gf) 12.50  
 Local Sausages, Mash and Onion Gravy 13.00  
 served with seasonal vegetables  
 Steak and Ale Pie 14.00  
 with chips, peas and gravy  
 Pork Tenderloin on a bed of mashed potato 15.00  
 stuffed with sausage meat and black pudding with an apple, wild mushroom and sage sauce and vegetables  
 Local 8oz Gammon Steak 14.00  
 served with fried egg, pineapple, chips and peas (gf)  
 Breaded Chicken Burger 13.00  
 served with chips and coleslaw  
 Beef Chilli Nachos topped with melted cheese 13.00  
 with soured cream, guacamole and salsa

## CATCH OF THE DAY

- Beer Battered Haddock 14.00  
 with chips, garden or mushy peas and tartare sauce (gf\*)  
 Replace peas with salad for 1.00  
 Wholetail Breaded Scampi 13.00  
 with chips, garden or mushy peas and tartare sauce  
 Replace peas with salad for 1.00

## SIDES

- Dressed Salad 3.00  
 Seasonal Vegetables 3.00  
 Garlic Bread 3.50  
 Garlic Bread & Cheese 4.00  
 Onion Rings 4.00  
 Chips 4.00  
 Cheesy Chips 5.00

If you have any food or drink allergies or intolerances, please speak to a member of our team before placing your order. Every effort is made to minimise the risk of cross-contamination of ingredients, but this cannot be guaranteed. All fish dishes may contain bones.

(gf) Gluten Free

(gf\*) Gluten Free with changes

(vegan) Suitable for vegans

(vegan\*) Suitable for vegans with changes

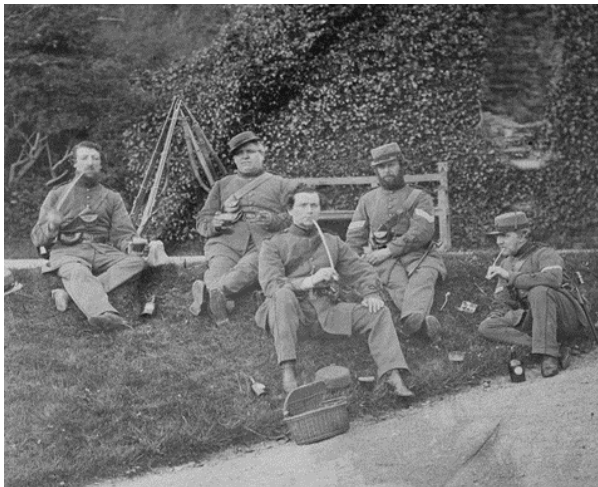
(v) Suitable for vegetarians

(v\*) Suitable for vegetarians with changes

## WHY “THE RIFLE VOLUNTEER”?

There are many public houses of long standing with names which speak of history, echoes of events or circumstances of many years ago. The “Rifle Volunteer” at St Ann’s Chapel, reminds us of a different time, when Victoria ruled the Empire, but fears of an invasion brought about a call to arms.

The Napoleonic Wars and the Crimean War (1853 – 1856) revealed serious flaws in the structure of Britain’s armed forces. Fears of invasion by the French were rife, and there was a growing awareness of the need for an effective fighting force in place throughout the land. The nation’s resources were limited, after a lengthy period of conflict, and so the idea of forming a volunteer force, fully trained and armed, led to the formation of groups of “Rifle Volunteers.” The volunteers, from all walks of life, were issued with Enfield Rifles (which they had to pay for themselves) and they drilled and



practised, ready to respond to the call to arms in the event of an invasion.

Patriotic men in Calstock Parish responded to the call and formed a fighting unit. When the threat of invasion faded, it was

eventually

merged into the Duke of Cornwall’s Light infantry, later to be heavily involved, with heavy losses, in the dreadful war of 1914-1918. They came from different walks of life, most with no experience of weaponry whatsoever. They needed to be trained as soldiers and as rifle men, so practice ranges were built. Here volunteers learned to use the deadly weapons they were issued with. One such shooting range can be seen on this extract from a 19<sup>th</sup> century map.



It is clearly marked “*Volunteer Rifle Range*” at the top of Whiterocks, opposite Hingston Down Consols and just above the old Calstock Brick Works, of which now little can be seen. Here the local Rifle Volunteers, from whatever their background, of whatever age, prepared themselves to defend their homeland, in the event of an invasion. In the bottom right-hand corner of the same map is marked “*P H*” for “*Public House*”. Here, I imagine - and it would seem reasonable to make the assumption - the Rifle Volunteers gathered, after their exertions, to take a little liquid refreshment.

Almost a century and half later, that hostelry still stands, the “Rifle Volunteer” Inn, an echo of history, a reminder of those local men who stood ready to defend their country. In these more peaceful times few remember those brave souls who gave the inn its name.

*With thanks to Dorothy Kirk for compiling this information*