

# White Hart

(Photos of the Plaque unveiling. Date : Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019)







  
**WHITE HART**  
Inns were established near the Old Sulphur Well shortly after the 1621 appearance of Edmund Deane's book "Spadacrene Anglica", Cold Bath Road - originally Robin Hood Lane - being an important route for visitors to the Spa. The White Hart was probably established by 1734 when Dr. Short praised the nearby Cold Well in his study of British Spas. In 1847, the Thackwray family commissioned a Leeds architect named Atack to rebuild the inn to a design by celebrated railway architect George. T. Andrews, whose superbly crisp neoclassic facade was described by Sir Nikolaus Pevsner as Harrogate's finest building, "not being gaudy or showy about it". At the outbreak of war in 1914 the White Hart was requisitioned by the government and occupied by the War Office until peace time, when it was intended for hospital use as part of a realised scheme to make Harrogate the UK centre for the study and treatment of rheumatism. In 1949, the White Hart was acquired by the Yorkshire Regional Hospital Board for use as a hospital annex and training centre, which closed in 1970. After being acquired by the Post Office in 1973 attempted to demolish it to extend their telephone exchange. The White Hart was bought by the University of Leeds in 1980 and converted into an hotel, which the present owners are proud to be the former glory of Harrogate Civic Society.