

## **Three Legged Toad**

The public house now called the Three Legged Toad was built back in the 1600s – dated by the Brewers as 1646, though more likely 1680-90. We do not know what its earliest name was once it had become an ale house and staging inn. Whatever it was, the owners decided to change it to the New Inn, once the present Powell Arms gave up that name in favour of The Powell Arms in 1823-4. This was to honour the ‘Lord of the Manor’ up at Quex, who was made Lord High Sheriff of Kent that year.

Since the Three Legged Toad was very probably one of the oldest taverns in the Square, it must have disliked its old name very much to decide to call itself the ‘New Inn’. It kept this name until it was decided to change it to ‘The Pewter Pot’ in October / November 1961. Unfortunately it acquired some rather unsavoury customers during the next 35 years and when it was eventually taken over by the present couple, they were advised to give it a new name to help develop a new image.

The wife chose the name ‘Three Legged Toad’ because this mythical creature is supposed to sit astride a bag of gold and bring good luck and good fortune to all who treat it well. We shall have to wait and see.