## All Change on the High Street

Heritage Open Days Organised by Salisbury Civic Society

## Shop 10 Hardy's Sweet Shop 41 High Street

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41 High Street is one of a range of 3 houses originally built of two storeys with attics and cellars. Walls are of brick and tiles hung on the timber framework. The roofs are of tiles. The present building dates from the late 17th century and replaced an earlier set of four tenements. In the 18th century the building was heightened to three storeys and re-fronted to suggest a single house although the effect has now been lost through changes to the windows. Late in the 18th century or early in the 19th century a new attic storey was added and the 17th century chimney stack heightened. The house has an 18th century staircase. It is another building where seeing it from across the road as well as close by adds to one's understanding of its character. As with so many other Salisbury shops 41 has enjoyed considerable change of use. Fiford, tailors and outfitters, Mullins, furniture dealers (also of 52), Miss Jeffrey gave music lessons and the Misses Hardings offered arts and crafts. They have all come and gone along with Handley-Read, artist. Probably its longest lived incarnation was as the House of Steps cafe and restaurant that occupied the building from before the Second World War until around 1980 although its successor, the National Trust gift shop, occupied the building almost as long. Most recently it became Hardys sweet shop (now Mr Sims), famous for its series of small rooms, changes of floor level and 18th century staircase. It could have come from a Harry Potter film!

