

Heritage Open Days
Organised by Salisbury Civic Society

All Change on the High Street

Historical information is available at each
shop and a leaflet can be downloaded
from the Salisbury Civic Society website



7th Sept to 10th Sept

Visit shops in historic buildings

7th Sept 6.30pm

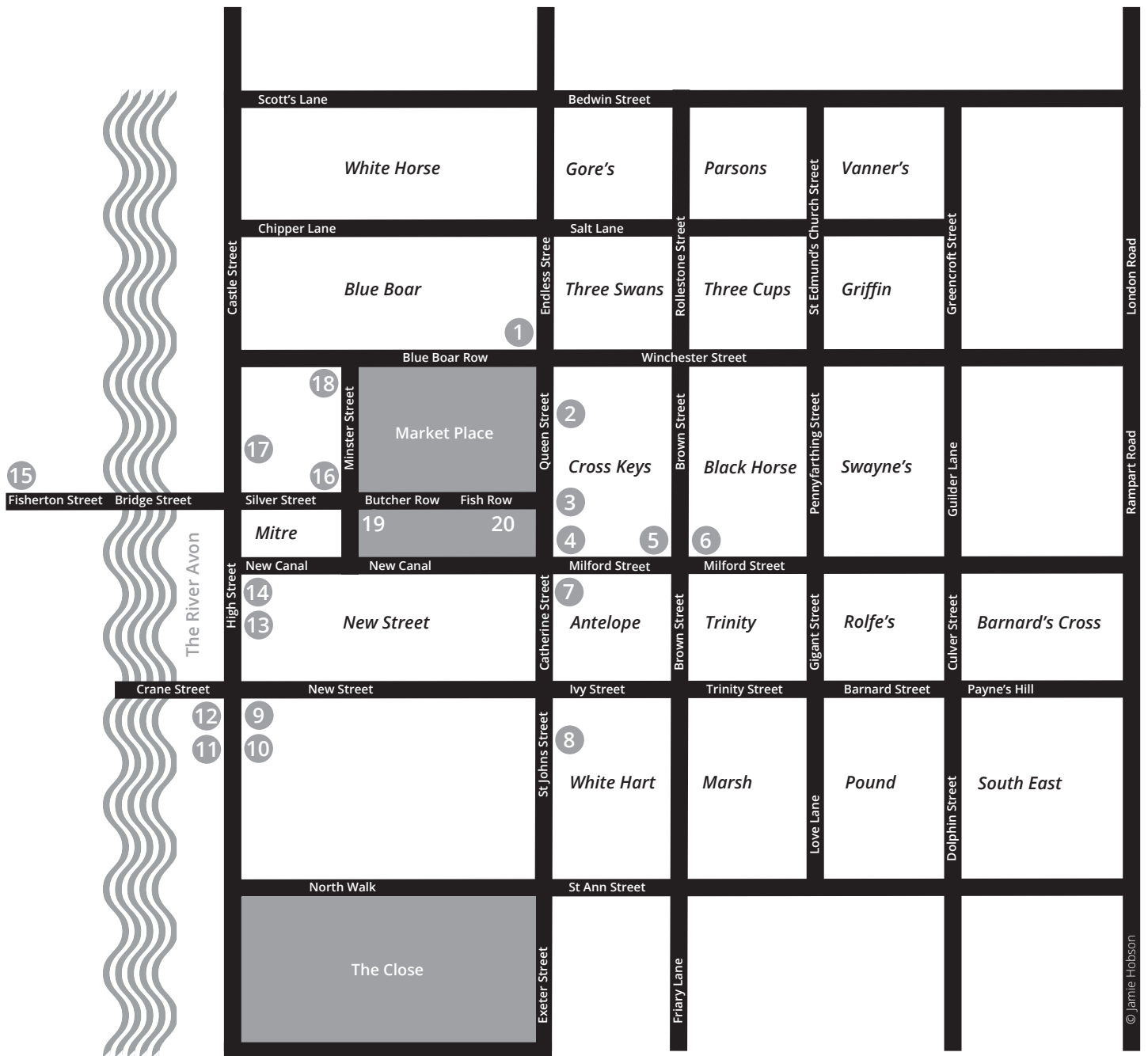
Talk: All Change on the High Street

The Methodist Church,
St Edmunds Church St.

You are welcome to visit the shops in any order during the following hours

* indicates open for longer for food and drink but not for visits due to busy times

Map	Address	Name	Thurs 7 Sept	Friday 8 Sept	Saturday 9 Sept	Sunday 10 Sept
1	51 Blue Boar Row	Pickled Frog	9–4pm	9–9pm	9–9pm	Closed
2	20 Queen St.	Gallery 21	10–5.30pm	10–5.30pm	10–5.30pm	11–3pm
3	9 Queen St.	Cotswold Outdoor	9–5.30pm	9–5.30pm	9–6pm	10.30–4.30pm
4	8 Queen St.	Crew Clothing	9.30–5.30pm	9.30–5.30pm	9–5.30pm	10–4pm
5	17 Milford St.	Chas Baker	9.30–5pm	9.30–5pm	9.30–5pm	Closed
6	21 Milford St.	Greenfield Guns	10–4.30pm	10–4.30pm	10–4pm	Closed
7	37 Catherine St.	Salisbury Antique Mkt	10–5pm	10–5pm	10–5pm	Closed
8	7 St Johns St.	Annie's Just Jane	10–1.30pm, 2–5pm	10–1.30pm, 2–5pm	10–1.30pm, 2–5pm	10.30–5.30pm
9	37 High St.	Anohki	11–5pm	11–5pm	11–5pm	Closed
10	41 High St.	Hardy's Sweet Shop	9.30–5.30pm	9.30–6pm	9.30–5.30pm	10.30–5.30pm
11	58 High St.	Sloane's	9–5.30pm	9–7pm	9–5pm	12–2pm
12	52 High St.	Prezzo*	10–12pm, 2.30–5.30pm	10–12pm, 2.30–5.30pm	10–12pm, 2.30–5.30pm	10–12pm, 2.30–5.30pm
13	13 High St.	Boston Tea Party	8.30–4pm	8.30–4pm	8.30–4pm	9–4pm
14	7-9 High St.	Waterstones	9–5.30pm	9–5.30pm	9–5.30pm	10.30–4.30pm
15	108 Fisherton St.	Fisherton Mill	10–5pm	10–5pm	9.30–5.30pm	Closed
16	35 Minster St.	Wm Carter and Sons	9.30–4.30pm	9.30–4.30pm	9–5pm	Closed
17	28 Market Place	Dinghams Cookshop	9.30–5pm	9.30–5pm	9.30–5pm	Closed
18	26-28 Minister St.	Allum and Sidaway	9–5pm	9–5pm	9–5pm	Closed
19	33 Butcher Row	Goldsmiths	9–5.30pm	9–5.30pm	9–5.30pm	10.30–4.30pm
20	3 Fish Row	Maul's*	12–5pm only	*	*	*



All Change on the High Street

Welcome to the **Salisbury Heritage Open Days**. We hope you will enjoy exploring some of the shops located in historic buildings in the City. Salisbury is rich in historic buildings. Many have their origins in medieval times and owe their survival to the massive oak timber frames often hidden by 'modernisation' in more recent times. Not only have the buildings changed but their uses have also altered. This walk is an attempt to draw attention to our rich heritage and to highlight the adaptability of both buildings and people as circumstances and requirements change. Find out about shops in Salisbury's historic buildings and ways of shopping from early stalls in the medieval market place to present day retail. Changes in shopping are not recent: ways of shopping and their premises have changed significantly over the ages.

Why 'All change on the High Street'?

The demise and death of the High Street has been forecast many times during the last few years. Fuelled by the growth of Amazon and other online traders, Covid lockdowns, and technical advances allowing door-to-door delivery by the large grocery chains to be profitable, much has been written and predicted suggesting that town centres would be hollowed out, and the future for shopping as we know it was all but over. Such pessimism is not new and we believe is greatly overstated. Shops and their buildings have always had to adapt to different uses as needs and wants change. Salisbury provides ample evidence of this. Few records exist of the very earliest shops of Salisbury and probably few shops existed. However, from earliest times a Market Place operated and was at

least twice as large as the current Market Place in the centre of the city. Farmers came in from the surrounding countryside and sold produce to the town's people, and in turn required goods such as shoes, clothing and household wares as well as Inns and hotels to cater for the transient traders and purchasers. Much of the trading took place in open air stalls but as wealth increased, both of the clergy (important in Salisbury) and the more successful tradesmen, tenements, shops, houses and shop-houses were all built, the latter with a ground floor shop and living quarters above. Of course, the precise arrangement of buildings varied but the overall numbers increased, so much so that more space was required and the market square started to shrink. Butchers Row and Fish Row are both testaments to this process. The number of ad-hoc stalls fell as shops were built and more sophisticated trading patterns emerged.

Changes to the Market Place may well have now stopped but the same process continues to the present. There is constant evolution in the nature of the shops and the goods they sell, and in the alternative uses to which the buildings are used. We should not be surprised by this. The introduction of radios, TV's, home computers, mobile phones and other electrical and electronic goods brought with them the need for retailers, repairers and a host of other services. In an earlier era the rise of the car and the demise of horse riding except as a leisure activity meant there was no longer a need for saddlers and cart sellers. The list is endless. New goods and ways of doing require change and the High Street is no more insulated from this change than any other part of the economy.

Salisbury's shops provide an ideal venue for examining the changes. As a planned City from its beginnings in 1220 with a Market place and squares, later known as Chequers, set out for houses, shops and other buildings, we are fortunate that so much survives from the past. Many buildings have the past embodied in them. The timber frames and roof structures of some early buildings have survived in whole or part and allow us to go back in time and view how they were constructed and in a few cases what they were used for. From the middle of the 19th century directories and other sources enable us to have a much clearer idea of the uses to which they were put.

For the purposes of this walk we have identified 20 shops that tell of Salisbury's past and the changes that have taken place. Most of the buildings are several hundred years old and have been altered and rebuilt

several times as requirements changed. There is, for example, no longer a need for stables or space for servants! We provide details where we know it, of their tenants and the business conducted over the past century or so. At one extreme there is Carter's, the jewellers who have occupied the same site for more than 200 years. At the other, buildings that have been occupied by plumbers, decorators, a Chinese restaurant, carpet warehouse and much else beside before becoming Dinghams, a cookshop and cafe. We encourage you to look at the outside of the buildings from a short distance (but please be careful of the traffic!) in order to see the building as a whole and in the context of its neighbours, as well as the inside. We hope you enjoy the walk. If you know more of the history, the people and the trades found in these buildings we would be delighted to learn of it.

Please send messages to pjdhod2023@gmail.com

Key Sources

Goad maps of businesses in the City Centre (1969-2015)

Post Office Directory of Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorsetshire (1875)

Kelly's Directories of Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorsetshire, (Various Dates 1880 -1974)

Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England), Ancient and Historical Monuments in the City of Salisbury (1980) Volume 1 HMSO

Chandler, J (1983) Endless Street. Salisbury: Hobnob Press

Purvis, B (2015) Salisbury: The Changing City. JMD Media Ltd.

Rabbitts, P and Gordon, L (2021) Salisbury in 50 Buildings. Amberley Publishing

Salisbury Library

Acknowledgments

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