



# All Change on the High Street

**Heritage Open Days**  
Organised by Salisbury  
Civic Society

## Shop 5 **Chas H Baker** 17 Milford Street, Cross Keys Chequer

As with many other premises on the trail it is recommended that you begin looking at this building from across the road to see it in the context of its neighbours. The outside of the building is of 16th century origin, and has been much restored over the years. There are two upper floors, plus attics that, as with many other buildings in Central Salisbury, have now been returned to residential use. The building is timber framed and slate hung. Inside there are many old beams, some re-used ship's beams dating back to the ship building days near Beaulieu. Number 15 is the same age as 17, while 19 is a much more recent building designed to look older than it is.

On the ground floor are several interesting old photos showing the front of the shop, its staff over the last century, the Bakers themselves, and papers showing the purchase of the building by the Bakers in 1902.

### History

In earlier years Milford Street was named Winchester Street. It was the main road to Winchester via Clarendon Park. The street was lined with Hostleries and Coaching Inns and these buildings could well have served as one of these.

In the late 19th century No. 15 was Short's, a tailor. Charles H Baker bought it in 1902. In the early 20th century, 17 was Denham's the Baker before giving way to Shipley's, a caterer. While Denham's was in 17, 19 was an alehouse, the 'Round of Beef' and between 15 and 17 there was an alley. Animals from the market were brought through the alleyway to a slaughterhouse behind the shops. The 'Round of Beef' burned down in the 1930's and was re-built by Lord Morrison (who served as a Salisbury MP for many years) as Morrison Hall in Mock Tudor style. It was the Conservative Party headquarters for a while and the constituency office for the sitting MP has its entry round the corner in Brown Street. During the second world war the site was used as the American NAAFI.

Charles H Baker extended the shop front in 1984 to incorporate numbers 15-19 as their business expanded to include ladies and some children's clothing as well as men's clothing and outfitting. More recently it has reverted to its original focus on menswear in number 17.

