



# All Change on the High Street

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

## Shop 8 **Annie's Just Jane** 7 St John Street, White Hart Chequer

Number 7 St John Street is a medieval timber framed building probably dating back to the 15th Century and altered in the 16th, late 18th and early 19th centuries. It has two storeys the first floor jettied on plain bull nosed jetty joists and the braced framing has large panels. Jetties were used for several reasons including improving the stability of the timber framing, enabling the use of shorter posts and increasing floor size. Below a slate roof which dates to the early 19th century, there is a projected moulded eaves cornice and two large windows on the upper floor, each 4 panes wide and a small cornice on the first floor which flanks a larger central French window with an open pediment. This window was formerly used as a door for access to the top of coaches below, possibly when part of the Kings Arms hotel. The ground floor has a 19th century shop front with 2 and 3 light windows and a yard entrance to the right

On the upper floor a grand dining room, entered from the floor below, was added to the earlier structure in the 19th century and became the assembly rooms of the Kings Arms Hotel which comprised several connected buildings. This upper floor of number 7 is not available to view. The listing details for the building identify 7 St Johns Street as part of a very important group, comprising all the odd numbers 1-13.

In the early 20th century number 7 was a Saddlers. Humby the saddler also sold harnesses, horse clothing as well as brushes, baskets and some fancy goods. By the mid 1920s it appears to have housed two businesses, in premises 7 and 7A. 7 was the premises for confectioners, firstly Clark then Blackford from the twenties to the early sixties. The premises were briefly used by the Avon Galleries and then by Bill Toop's Gallery. In 1966 Beach Brothers the booksellers (also in 52-54 high street) took over number 7 until at least 1974.

The Royal Liver Friendly Society occupied 7A from 1927 till 1959, followed by Thurston the watchmaker until the mid 1970s.

The business called Just Jane, focussed on ladies lingerie and swimwear, was founded in 1970 and began in 21B Milford Street. It was taken over and became Annie's Just Jane in 2007. The business moved to 7 St John Street in 2017.

