

Businesses, Shops and Trades

Don Walker 2012

Horse Fair	
Police Houses	Now Stoneleigh House.
Bull Ring	
Coaches	Mr Stanley Hall at The King's Arms. Now Deddington Arms.
Shoe Mender	Mr Chris Ell. Now Wirral House.
Solicitor	Mr Fortescue. His office was in Wychway House. He lived at The Old Malt House, Church Street.
Taxi	Mr Tom Holiday. Now Dragon House.
Victoria Terrace	
Private School	Owned and run by Miss Ivens in Stoneleigh for 25 boys and girls. Open from 1934 to 1938.
Market Place	
Sweet Shop	Miss Cynthia French and her sister. Now Cedar Therapy next to the Red Lion which was run by Mr Jimmy Green.
Baker and Confectioner	Mr Dickie Dodwell. Later Mr Bernard Wallin. Now Hampton International Estate Agents.
Butcher	Mr William Dodwell. Now The Flower Shop.
Green Grocer and Fish	Mr Jimmy Hayward. He also did hair cuts in the back room. Now Viva/Sacs.
Drapery and Shoes	Mr Harold Wells known as 'Ticky'. Now Phillip Allen Updates. You could also do your banking there one day a week.
General Store and Ironmonger	Mr Charlie West. Later a Cafe run by his youngest daughter Ann. Now Mark David Estate Agents
Paraffin and Candles	Mr Arthur Canning. Now Southgate.
Co-op	Mr Francis George. Same place as today.
Grocery	Tuckers Stores managed by Mr Raymond Boon. Now Otters Restaurant.
Post Office	Mr Charlie West, later Mr Bolton. Now Eagles.
Chapel Square	
Butcher	Mr Sandy Hopcraft. Now Tax Assist Accountants.
Grocery	Mr Bert Weaver. Now Centrepoint.
Jigsaw Shop	Wooden jigsaws made by Miss Surman. Now No 2 Chapel Square.
Featherton House	Surgery and Dispensary. Dr Jones, Dr Hodges and Dr Holloway. Dispenser was Miss Legge. Later the dispensary was moved to the Chemists in New Street.

Castle Street	
Sweet Shop	Mrs Sanders, Walt Sanders Mother. Now 3 Hopcraft Lane.
Clock Mender	Mr Reid. Wakehurst Cottage.
Coal and Wood Merchant	Mr Fred Deeley. Castle Dene.
Philcote Street	
Coal Merchant and Sack Hirer	Mr Jack Callow. The Old House.
High Street	
Private School	Miss Bolton. Holcombe House. 1920-1935. 30 pupils.
Grocery	Mr Peffy Lewis. He also ran the Labour Exchange from an office behind the shop. Now Heathfield.
Electrical	Mr Goundry. Later Mr Oldham. Now No 10.
Butchers	Miss Bolton and Mr Arthur Smith. When the butchers moved to New Street at what is now Eldred House, this shop became an Ice Cream Parlour run by the West family who had moved into the Holcombe.
Cycle Repairs	Mr Bill Holiday. On the north side corner of Hudson Street. Now a cycle shop once again, called Cyclogical.
New Street	
Chemist and Barbers	Mr Stockdale. Later Mr Ducket. Now Windermere House which still has its shop window. It also had a Gent's hairdresser in the room behind.
Private School	Rosedene House. On the right of the archway opposite Hudson Street and still called Rosedene. Owned and run by Miss Melsom for five 'children of the gentry' two of whom were the daughters of the Mortons at Fritwell Manor.
Green Grocers	Mr and Mrs Bill Compton. Now Three Horse Shoes.
Cobbler	Mr Knibbs. His shop was in a garden shed behind Compton's Green Grocer shop.
Blacksmith and Farriers	Mr Fred Tibbetts. The Archway on south side of the Congregational church. He also sold petrol from a hand operated pump - pull up once for half a gallon. Now a dental practice and Archway Court.
Gun Shop and Fireworks	Mr Johnnie Runnicle. Later the ironmonger Mr Joe Beardsley. Now Bengal Spice Indian Restaurant.
Sweet Shop	Miss Ruth Fowler. She was rather disabled. Now Stone House.
Baker	Mr Bill Course. Now the Old Bakehouse next to The Stile.
Builders Yards	
P Franklin and Sons	Earls Lane nearly opposite the school.

Douglas Hopcraft St Thomas Street. Now the yard where the Veterinary Practice and Phil Rudge's garage workshops are. He was also the local undertaker. Mr Alf Stanley and Mr Frank Drinkwater made the coffins.

Public Houses

Three Tuns	Now Crown & Tuns. New Street.
Red Lion	Market Place.
Unicorn	Market Place.
Plough	Hempton. Closed just before the war.
King's Arms	Now Deddington Arms. Horsefair.
Volunteer	Now Russell House. New Street.
Duke of Cumberland's Head	Clifton.

New Street Dairy

Elsie Hore and her husband, Theodore, ran New Street Dairy from the Old Farm House on New Street. During the summer the cows walked down the Oxford Road to their grazing fields in Chapmans Lane. In 1940 Theodore fell off a wagon carrying hay and broke his neck. Bill Wheeler, Cyril Clarke and Jeff Butler then helped Elsie with the business. It was taken over in 1956 by Ivy (née Gregory) and Frank Rainbow and operated as Rainbow Dairies from St Thomas Street for 17 years. In the early years Mr Course let them use his bread van for the morning deliveries.

Chimney Sweep

Mr Alf Yerbury lived in Castle Street opposite the small green. They did their rounds with a pony and trap. As children we would go to see the pony grazing on the green. Jim's sister, Cissy, who lived with them, was the school dinner cook. His son, Jim lived in Field View opposite the Castle grounds entrance.

Hedge Layers

George and Tom Sykes who lived on Goose Green next door to one another were skilled at their craft. It was normal to cut a chain length⁴ of hedge each day but you would often see Tom making his way home at 3pm having completed his length.

Night Soil Buckets

A polite way of putting it. For the people who did not have a sewerage system to their house or a garden to empty the bucket as it was called, Mr Sid Canning came round weekly - usually on a Saturday night - with a bowser pulled by a horse. He would come and take the bucket and empty it into the bowser and take it to his fields near Bloxham Berge⁵ and spread it. He used to come to the house where I lived in the Market Place.

The 'Gollywog' Lady

Fanny Wheeler who lived at Corner House, Chapel Square, with her husband used to have a stall selling these dolls in the market on Pudding Pie Fair Day.

⁴ 66 Feet or 22 Yards or 100 Links or 4 Rods. There are 10 Chains in a Furlong and 80 Chains in a Statute Mile. An Acre is 10 square Chains i.e. 1 Chain and 1 Furlong.

⁵ This is the old name for the bridge over the River Swere by what is now Daeda's Wood.

Deddington Slaughterhouse

This was situated up The Grove on the right hand side. It was owned by Sandy Hopcraft the local butcher. His slaughterman was Mr Jack Malcher (book p.161). Jack would go with Sandy to the various markets to buy cattle, sheep and pigs. They then brought them to the slaughterhouse to prepare them for Smithfield Market. Jack would take them to Smithfield in a large lorry to be there for the early market and meet the prospective buyers. The slaughterhouse closed in the early years of the war and Jack carried on as a slaughterman at the Banbury slaughterhouse for three days a week and then worked in the Deddington butchers shop the rest of the week. This was a very renowned business.



One of Stanley Hall's coaches in the Bullring



Harvesting Big Wanbrook field, Grove Farm, for Mr Butlin. Don Walker is on the tractor and his Dad, Percy, is just visible sitting up behind the binder