

RYDE SOCIAL HERITAGE GROUP

Beyond the Graves

horses and cattle.'

Volume 17: Number 3: July 2022

A MEANDER UP THE HIGH STREET

The High Street Kelly's IW Directory 1900

High st. from St. Thomas's square to Swanmore road.

- I HALSTED THOMAS HY.
- general & fancy draper 2 White Timothy Company, chemists
- 3 Adams Henry, grocer 4 Gibson Alfred & Son, boot makers
- 5 Browne Harry, hosier 5 Browne H. Silverwood,
- 5 Browne H. Silverwood, picture dealer 6 DUFFETT JAMES GEO. JUN. CORN & COAL MERCHANT 7 Purnell John Alfred, fur-
- nishing warehouse undertaker
- 8 Purnell John Alfd. aucturhere are Manor gdns
- 9 RickardEdmund, watch ma
- 10 Payton A. & N. baby linen

- 10 Payton A. &N. baby linen
 warehouse
 11 Williams George, pianoforte tuner
 12 Martin Henry Robert,
 antique furniture dealer
 here is Albert pl
 13 Ralph Miss L. confectioner
 14 James Edgar, fruiterer
 15 Home & Colonial Stores
 Limited
 16 Hudson Thomas, boot ma
 17 Wiltshire Edward, tailor
 18 Sears Mrs. R. J. ladies'
 outfitter
 19 Watkins James, currier
 20 International Tea Co's.
 Stores Limited
 21 Smith William, chemist
 22 Granville hotel, Hbt. Reed
 here is Anglesea st
- here is Anglesea st

The High Street Kelly's Ryde Directory 1951

HIGH STREET.
From St. Thomas's square to
Swanmore road.

- Swammore road.

 East side.

 1 Duncan Jn. draper

 2 Whites Timothy & Taylor Ltd.
 ironmgrs

 5 White's Fish Restaurant (a. fe4 Wallstyles Ltd. decrtrs.' mers

 4a, Hunt Leslie Wm

 5 Token House (I.W.) Ltd. china
 & glass dlrs

 6 Brooker F. clothier
 here are Manor gdns

 | Lescoling (Wise, H. Maddow)

- 21 Boots The Chemists
 22 Granville Hotel, E. A. London
 here is Anglesea st

Purnell's Furniture Shop at No 7 & 8, decorated for Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1897, now Barclays Bank.

Roy Brinton Collection

Looking back towards St Thomas' Square, with Barclays Bank and Miss Pack on the right.



The lower High Street from St Thomas' Square showing the horse trough given by Miss Brigstocke [Roy Brinton Collection]

'The kindly disposition of Miss Brigstocke was shown by many

acts of generosity. Sympathising very much with animals she

put up drinking fountains in St Thomas' Square, the Esplanade,

the upper part of West Street, etc. which are such a boon to



IW Times 11 February 1886

Wanted a respectable young person to assist in a Boot and Shoe Shop. To sleep out of the house. Apply by letter only, to Alfred Gibson, 4 High Street, Ryde.

IW Observer 6 February 1864

Early Closing Movement - An effort is now being made by the assistants in the town with a view of inducing employers to adopt a uniform hour for closing, viz., 7 o'clock during the 6 winter months and 8 o'clock during the 6 summer months. The movement has already received the sanction of some of the principal tradesmen of the town.

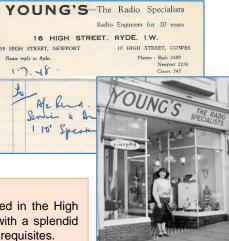
IW Express & County Paper 24 March 1894

A new business establishment has recently been opened in the High Street, Messrs Nelson & Co having opened at No 18 with a splendid stock of mangles, wringers, and various other household requisites.



IW County Press 26 July 1975

Young's at no 16 receipt Roy Brinton Collection Photo late 1940's - RSHG



IW Observer 23 March 1861

Awful State of Things - It is well known that things are at present very dull in Ryde. On enquiring of several respectable tradespeople in two of the busiest streets in Ryde, as to what their daily receipts amounted to, at neither of the two shops alluded to, were they taking more than a trumpery half-a-crown a day, and at one shop they sometimes took perhaps ninepence one day and fourpence three farthings the next, and so on.



International Stores - Roy Brinton Collection

IW Observer 30 January 1864 - Removal - Joseph Butler, Fruiterer, Greengrocer, &c., begs to inform that he had removed from 39 High Street, to 130 High Street, Ryde, (directly opposite the Star Inn).

IW Times 4 March 1920 - Boots Stores - Sir Jesse Boot has acquired the business of Mr Burr, chemist High Street. Roy Brinton Collection





Image of the High Street - Brian Young

IW Observer 16 February 1861

Total Darkness - On Saturday evening about 6 o'clock, our tradespeople and others received a considerable shock to the nervous system, in consequence of the gas being suddenly shut off from their pipes. All business was suspended and the stock and valuables of the shopkeepers left at the mercy of the plunderers, and gentlemen with questionable fancies for overcoats. &c.

The High Street Kelly's IW Directory 1900

23 James James nurserymen 24 Windsor Robert, tailor 25 Sapsworth Sidney Charles, cycle maker 26 Brading John M. tailor 27 Bevins Mrs. Jane, draper 28 Teague Arth. confectioner 29 Gatrall John, shoe maker 30 Teasdale Emanuel, confetr 31 Way A. F. & Co. tbcconsts 32 World's Tea Co 33 Whittington Henry, refreshment rooms 34 Misselbrook &Weston, gros 35 Chiverton Thomas Mew, house decorator & artists' repository 36 James Hy. refreshment rms 37 & 146 Oliver Geo. boot ma 38 Page Arthur, outfitter 39 Blott Jonathan, butcher 40 Mee Frank, Star hotel confectioners
42 Jolliffe Sidney N. grocer
43 MELLISH FREDERICK P. printer, stationer & bookseller; post office 44 Eagle inn, Edward Sweetman, sen 45 Colonial Meat Stores (M. J. Morgan, proprietor) 46 & 136 Crabb George, jun. confectioner Tansom Alfred, boot makr 47 Tansom Mrs. Frances, greengrocer 48 Bristol Boot Co

Hampshire Telegraph and Sussex Chronicle 7 February 1880

A number of counterfeit halfsovereigns and sovereigns are said to have been put into circulation in the Isle of Wight during the past few days, causing some misgivings on the part of the trading community.

Hampshire Telegraph and Sussex Chronicle 28 October 1882

On Friday evening considerable alarm was organised by an explosion of benzoline at the back of the shop of Mr King, ironmonger, of High Street, owing to a boy serving benzoline at night, but fortunately very little damage was done.

IW Observer 8 December 1900 Mr Gibson of the High Street has been exhibiting some looted finery in his shop window - a tiny pair of lady's shoes brought from Peking, so small that they would hardly fit an English baby three years ald

IW Observer 15 June 1861 Awning Nuisance - There is a by-law that awnings placed outside shop windows to keep off the sun, shall be seven feet in height from the pavement. It is not enforced, consequently much inconvenience is felt by pedestrians whose stature exceeds the average. Short people don't experience the luxury of having their hats constantly knocked over their eyes or off their heads. Perhaps these impediments upon the highway are so placed to invite the application of a sharp knife to clear them away. Why don't the police summon a string of the offenders?

The High Street Kelly's Ryde Directory 1951

Frank Wright, 41 High Street, was in court charged with not keeping an authentic account, in his Bread Register, of materials received in accordance with the Bread Act. He claimed they had been too busy and was given the benefit of the doubt. From a report in IW Observer 14 December 1918. Frank died 13 January 1921, aged 69, after having been in business for over 50 years, learning his trade from his father. Photo Roy Brinton Collection.

Inset Island Bakeries in the same premises. RSHG

The High Street Kelly's IW Directory 1900

52 James Alcot Denty, Jaker 53 Butt Jas. & Co. boot makers 54 Biggs & Son, fruiterers St. Mary's Catholic CHURCH & CONVENT St. Mary's Catholic School Cahill Right Rev. Monsig-nor Provost John Baptist

B.A.Lond.[vicar-general] [Catholic] (St. Mary's passage)
Cotter Rev. Wm. Timothy
[Catholic] (St. Mary's

passage)
...here is St. Mary's passage...
56 Brown Henry, painter &c
57 Galley W. E. butcher
58 Ridgers Albert, tobacconist
59 London Central Meat Co.

Limited 60 Ward Edmund & Co. domestic machinery depôt, & cycle agents

& cycle agents
61 Whittington Benj. baker
62 Grainger Jas. ironmonger
63 Jackman Chas. Wm. tailor
64 Morris Geo. Henry, draper
65 Whittington Mrs. Agnes,
confectioner
67 Blackett Wiss S. I. ladice.

67 Blackett Miss S. J. ladies' outfitter

outlitter
68 Naylor Ross J. tobacconist
69 Heward William G. fishmgr
70 Malt & Hops P.H. Harry
William Caddy
.....here is St. John's rd



Fred. P. Mellish, no 43, receipt **RSHG**

Photo of the Eagle Hotel which was "front of house" to Sweetman's Brewery behind the hotel, in Star Street

Rov Brinton Collection The later photo, RSHG, shows the upper part of the property with the eagle still remaining, 44 & 45 was at the time of the photo, Who One & RSPCA.





IW Observer 7 September 1878 Aquarium

Mr Langdon opened what he is pleased to call the "Precursor Aquarium" in the High Street. It is well stocked with a number of very handsome fish.

Photo of the Scala Cinema [RSHG] Affectionately known as the fleapit, it opened in 1922 and had 500 seats. The exterior had a rough-cast finish with grand imitation marble pillars at the entrance and ran a continuous programme from early afternoon through the evening, later to include Sunday evenings. The first manager was Mr Milsom.

In the 1960's the cinema was sold to Associate Star Holdings renamed it The Plaza and modernised it. Later it was demolished and replaced by a supermarket (Iceland)

The High Street Kelly's Ryde **Directory** 1951

here is Warwick pl

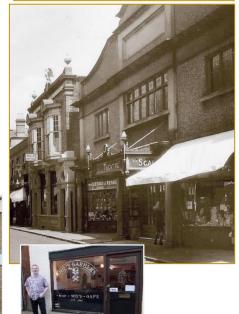
presbytery)
.... here is St. Mary's pass
57 Harvey Wm. Leonard, grocer
58 Hodges Easton Ltd. tobcensts
59 London Central Meat Co. Ltd
60 Nash F. S. fried fish shop
61 Buck H. bldrs.' mer
62 Jeffery (E. M. Jeffery, propr.),
wool shop
63 Alderslade J. K. Ltd. decrtrs.'
mers

mers
Ltd. butchers
67 Castle's Furnishing Stores, upholsterers
68 Sharpe Mrs. E. E. tobccnst
69 Ashley R. fruitr

.. here is St. John's rd

Further up the High Street the shop front at no 64 remains relatively unchanged today, despite changing hands several times, from C. Barton, gents' outfitter in this image.





High Street, and before moving to no 64, previously Sew 'n' So.

Photos by Dave Bushell

AND BACK DOWN THE OTHER SIDE

The High Street Kelly's IW Directory 1900

.......here is Green st 127 Brewers' Arms р.н. Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Braddy 128 Reed William Alfd. fruitr 129 Purnell Geo. undertaker 130 Pragnell Thos. beer retir 130 Ryde Temperance Hall 132, 133 & 134 Turner George, painter &c 135 Dimmer T. & Son, sta-tioners & bookbinders

136846Crabb Geo.jun.confetr 137 MorrissWm.Jn.watch ma 138 Harrold Joseph, boot ma 139 Heward Robert, fishmigr

140 King & Co. ironmongers 141 Whitcher E.& A.S. clothrs

141 Whitcher E.& A.S. clothrs
142 Bishop Brothers, boot mas
143 Munt Frdk. W. antique dlr
143 Royal Society for the
Prevention of Cruelty to
Animals (Frederick W.
Munt, hon, see)
...... here is Bedworth pl
144 Jones Mrs. Helen, greengro
145 Steward John, confectioner
146 & 37 Oliver Geo. boot ma
147 Damp Edward, grocer
148 Hill & Co. china&glass dlrs
149 Loader James, butcher
150 & 151 Hill & Co. drapers
..... here is Newport st
152 Nag's Head P.H. E. B.

..... nere is Newport st
152 Nag's Head P.H. E. B.
Harvey
153 Cooper Jsph. pork butchr
154 Ryde Oddfellows' Hall
154 Ryde (483rd) Starr-Bowkett Building Society
(registered office)
155 Colverson Francis, grngro

156 Carter Francis(exors. of),

saddlers
156 Gough Charles
156 Gough Charles
157 JohneoxJn., jun. fishmagr
158 Denton Charles Smith, corn merchant

159 Hillier Wm. Jas. butcher 160 Trussler & Co. fruiterers 160 A, Healey Thomas Henry, boot maker 161 Cooper Wm. pork butcher 162 Francis Miss Alice, confr

163 Vanner MissRose, tobenst 164 Castle hotel, George Gale & Co. Limitedhere is John st



Jolliffe's Grocers were at No 126 High Street, on the corner with Green Street. Photograph of their premises RSHG, photograph of their painted sign by Tracy Welstead & cash book, Ann Barrett



The High Street Kelly's Ryde Directory 1951

127 Brewers' Arms P.H., C. G.
Rayner
128 Jacqueline's Café (W. H. E.
Hetherington)
129 Watts Edward & Sons Ltd.
paint mers
129 Cobbett Jn
130 Price Arth. Lee butches

130 Prior Arth, Jas. butcher

129 Consect of 130 Prior Arth, Jas. butcher
130 Prior Arth, Jas. butcher
131 Ministry of Food Office
132 Creamery Snack Bar (Parco Ltd. proprs)
132 Norman Clive
132 Cambers Eric
134 Key G. N. & Son, butchers
135 Dimmer T. & Son, statnrs
135 Fry F. C. baker
136 Fry Fredk
137 Taylor C. C. bldr
137a, Donovan Albt. Fredk
138 Jeffery (E. M. Jeffery, propr.),
1adies' outfitter
140 Oakham J. W. glazier
140a, Butt S. & Co. boot mkrs
141 Castle's Furnishing Stores, upholsterers
142 Esten Geo. Edwin fruitr

holsterers
142 Eaton Geo. Edwin, fruitr
143 Gray K. & Sons Ltd. bakers

...... here is Bedworth pl

144 Wray & Sons Ltd. grocers
145 Rugg Walter J. & Co. Ltd. tobecnsts
145a, Hall Eric

146 Gilham Alfd. Geo. fruitr 147 & 37 Oliver Geo. (Footwear) Ltd. boot mkrs

147 May Jas 148, 149 & 150 Hill's Stores Ltd. drapers 150 Philbrick Wltr. Percy

...... here is Newport st 151 Nag's Head P.H. Edwd.
Robinson
152 Barden Arth. E. confetur
153 Turner H. R. leather mer
153 Ryde Oddfellows' Hall
154 Mac Fisheries Ltd. fishmngrs
155 Eastmans Ltd. Lutchers
156 Morriss P. R. jeweller
157 Johncox Jn. jun. fishmngr
159 Siedman Geo

159 GILL J. W. C. LTD. butchers (an island firm with service). Tel. Ryde 2118

160 Woolworth F. W. & Co. Ltd. departmental stores
161 British Bata Shoe Co. Ltd. (The), boot & shoe mkrs
162 Hofman Stanley Jas, fried fish dlr

163 Tims A. W. fishmngr

164 Castle Hotel, Geo. Talbot here is John st







Dimmer's at no 135. Receipt Roy Brinton Collection & photograph, RSHG, Ryde Book Shop [image from their website]

We are showing

Also

Kitchen

Cabinets

in our windows

CASTLES

Furnishing Stores

B·M·K

Mothproof

John Dimmer died in 1951 age 74. He was the son of a local bookbinder and had started his own business in the town aged 19. His elder daughter, Muriel, had helped in the business, and took it over after her father's death.



Harry Castle, born into a High Wycombe family of craftsmen, came to Ryde to work for a local firm, but soon started his own business in the High Street. He was a prominent member of the IW County Bowling Team, and played for the Island against a visiting South African team. He died January 1939. [Extracted from IW Times 12 January 1939]





Postcard with Hill's behind the 'Nags head' sign. Turner's was the shop for bags and luggage, with a smell of leather on entering. Next door a glimpse of Gerald & Joan Earley's greengrocers [now Barrow Boys] Photograph Roy Brinton Collection



The High Street Kelly's IW Directory 1900

..... here is John st 165 Denny & Co. drapers 166 Johnson Alwyne Ernest, watch maker & jeweller 167 Gage Benjamin, grocer 168 Pollard Henry Hindes, chemist

chemist
169 Locke William & Son,
pork lutchers
170 Savage Wm. B. boot ma
171 Holmes Alfred, clothier
172 Baxter Frederick, fancy stationer

173 Stamp James, butcher 174 Prince of Wales P.H. Jas. Porter

175 DIMMICK JOHN, florist 176 SimmondsHy.upholsterer 178 Bridges Charles Henry, hair dresser

179 Eastmans Lim. butchers 180 Carter Mrs. M. greengrer 181 Duffett James G. brewer George H. Saban had been apprenticed to Sainsbury's as a fishmonger in London. He moved to the Island after service in the First World War and joined MacFisheries. He retired aged 82, and died 6 years later.

[Extracted from IW County Press 1 April 1978] Advert IW County Press 8 April 1972

FULL-TIME woman required to assist generally. — Apply Manager, MacFisher-ies, 157, High Street, Ryde

IW Observer 26 November 1864 Advert - I Leal, Green Grocer, &c., No. 135 High Street, Ryde. Read's genuine Pork and Beef Sausages fresh from Newport every day. Cow-heel and Tripe on Tuesdays and Fridays. N.B. Newport River Oysters fresh every day.

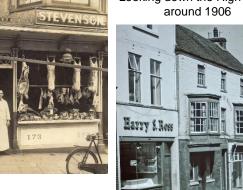


Tim's was another wet fish shop at no 163. Robert Tims took over the business and the IW Ice Factory, from his father, in 1961. III health forced his retirement in 1991, and he died in 1997. [Extracted from IW County Press 14 February 1997] Photograph Roy Brinton Collection



The IW Co-op at no 166 & 7, with Radio Rentals next door, who rented out televisions as well as radios. Photograph Roy Brinton Collection





Looking down the High Street



The High Street

Kelly's Ryde Directory

1951 . here is John st ..

165 National Provincial Bank Ltd. (Chas. P. B. South, manager) 165 Seaview Services Ltd. motor

165 Seaview Services Ltd. motor coach proprs
165 Hook A. E. & Co. chartrd. accutates
166 & 167 Isle of Wight Co-operative Society Ltd
168 Victory Cleaners (I. W.) Ltd. dyers & cleaners
168a & 169 Clark J. P. (Ryde) Ltd. bakers
170 & 171 Holmes & Sons, clothiers
172 Chapman Witr. W. fancy repository
173 Ross Harry S. butcher
174 Prince of Wales P.H. E. F. Lewis

Lewis
174 Mew W. B. Langton & Co.
Ltd. wine mers
176 Isle of Wight Gas Undertaking
(Southern Gas Board) (show-

176a, Barter Regnld. Geo 177 C.V.P. Electrical Ltd. electrol. engnrs 178 Duffett's Corn Stores

ooms)



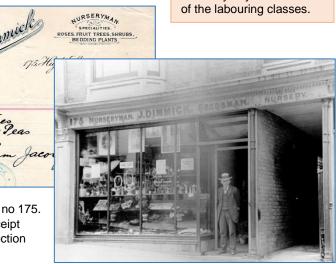
Various butchers at no 173. John Rayment had originally come to Newport to work, then, in the late 1920's, took over Stevenson's Ryde premises. He retired in 1947. Ironically he was a very keen fisherman. Photographs Alison Barnes [Mr Rayment's great niece]. Harry Ross then took over the shop. Photograph Roy Brinton Collection.

IW Observer 8 July 1922

In these progressive days it is only natural that merchants and purveyors should keep up-to-date in regard to the quick transit of goods by motor to the scattered towns and villages, and in this direction commendable enterprise is shown by Messrs. Eynon & Son, High-street, in a "Shop-on-Wheels" which this week commenced a regular delivery. "Dairy fed pork and Royal pork sausages" is prominently displayed on the van.



John Dimmick, at no 175. Photograph & receipt Roy Brinton Collection







Not only could you pay a bill or actually speak to a real person in the gas showrooms, many events were held there as well. Photograph & Account Roy Brinton Collection.

IW Times 6 October 1966 – The Women's Gas Federation on Monday at the Southern Gas Board showrooms saw a dress show staged by Dorothy Perkins Ltd.

IW Times 7 May 1970

A talk on the plastics industry was given to 39 members of the Women's Gas Federation on Monday at the Southern Gas demonstration room, High Street. The speaker was Mr. W. A. Chandler of Transatlantic Plastics. Central heating systems were described by a Southern Gas spokesman.







The Lion Pub on the corner of Garfield Road, rebuilt as Curry's, more

recently EWM, now a charity shop. Photographs Roy Brinton Collection

IW Times 14 November 1963

The High Street Kelly's IW Directory 1900

182 Singer Manufacturing Co 183 Butt C.M. & Co. ladies' tailrs 184 Garrett L.K. confectioner 185 & 186 Brook E. F. india rubber manufacturer

Portsmouth Telegraph or Mottley's Naval and Military Journal 29 June 1801

Mr John Lake, a very wealthy butcher in the High Street, died on Monday, at Ryde. He was returning from the burial of his brother, who had left him a very considerable increase of fortune. - His death happened in the following manner: - As he was riding down the hill into Old Ryde, he fell from his horse and was never perceived to breathe after. One thousand and forty-four pounds three shillings and sevenpence halfpenny were found in his pockets.

The High Street Kelly's Ryde Directory 1951

182 Island Dairies Ltd. dairy.
Tel. Ryde 2153/3253
183 Mallory Mrs. R. statur
183a, Rashley Rowland
184 Kiddle C. F. confetur
185a, Hinton Jn. Fredk. teacher of
languages

languages
186 Wight Motors (Ryde) Ltd.
motor agts
186 Fashion Bureau (Mrs. J. R.
Metcalfe, proprietress), dress
designers

designers 185 Perkis Jas. H. artists' colour-

man J. C., F.B.O.A.,
F.S.M.C. dispensing optician
188 Co-operative Insurance Society
Ltd. (H. C. Beetham, mngr)

..... And There Were Shops Above the Traffic Lights Too .

IW Observer 10 July 1909

Whilst attending to a blind on Saturday night, Thomas Sylvester, an employee of Mr C J De Launay, grocer, High Street, lost his balance and fell from the steps against the window, which was smashed. The man was uninjured.

IW Observer 30 November 1912

Mr. M De Launay had the misfortune to lose his finger through an accident while using a rotary bacon cutter. The finger was severed near the middle joint, but the whole finger was afterwards amputated.

IW Observer 18 October 1913

On Monday evening a horse, attached to a trolley, the property of Chaplin & Co, bolted and crashed into Mr C J De Launay's shop window, breaking two panes of glass, the woodwork of the shop door, and splitting the counter inside.

Avoid Charles De Launay's grocer's shop at no's 120 & 121!

Observer 4 February 1860. A deputation of carpenters, belonaina to Messrs Dashwood [of no 80 High Street] waited on their employers on Thursday evening last, for an advance in wages wishing to be paid the same as other establishments in the same line. As this is one of the head firms in the town, doubtless satisfactory arrangements will be concluded between the employees and the employed.



Reed's Greengrocers at no 140 Roy Brinton Collection

TEAGUE, (Late SWEETMAN.)

FANCY BREAD & BISCUIT BAKER

PASTRY COOK & CONFECTIONER,

103, HIGH STREET, RYDE, I.W.

Business card. **RSHG**