

ROUNDAABOUT RINGWOOD & SURROUNDING VILLAGES

NOW and THEN

Article and photo kindly supplied by Mary Baldwin
56 and 58 High Street, Ringwood



florist's, this shop has carried out a trade in electrical goods for almost a century.

To the right of this tall three-storey building is 56 High Street, which in Victorian times was the little shop of grocer Robert Frampton and later his son Charles, the father of Harry, Will and George Frampton.

When the Framptons built their larger shop next door but one, 56 became a butcher's. In the 1911 Hampshire Directory this is shown as

The shop on the corner of the High Street and Meeting House Lane used to be known, unsurprisingly, as Corner House. For many years since 1924 (about the same time as electricity was first produced in Ringwood) this shop was run by Laurence Cashmore, a wireless expert and photographer. An advertisement in Brown's Directory announced that, as the District Engineer to the Wireless League, he undertook repairs to all makes of radios and re-charged accumulators at modest rates. He was also a well-known photographer who developed and printed Kodak films. In addition to all this he supplied football, tennis, cricket and all sports requirements.

By 1953 the shop had become Super-sonic Services Ltd, still supplying or renting not only radios but also the new television sets, in time for Ringwood townsfolk to watch the Queen's Coronation. They also supplied vacuum cleaners, polishers and washing machines. By the time the 1970s photograph was taken by Ted Baker, the shop was called Supertel, later becoming Visionhire, still supplying televisions and other electrical equipment. About twelve years ago the present owner took over, renaming the shop Ringwood Sound &

Vision, 58 High Street. This means that, apart from a brief period as a

being owned by Eastman Ltd and in 1939 by the London Central Meat Company Ltd. The shop continued as a butcher's for many years, becoming Baxters by the time of the 1970s photograph. In the 21st century it has been a card shop and is now a lifestyle clothes shop named Calm Amongst the Chaos, owned by Frances Farmer. Frances first operated out of the old meat store which opened out onto Meeting House Lane but since 2017 she has taken over the whole premises, retaining many original features of the butcher's shop.

