

ROUNABOUT RINGWOOD & SURROUNDING VILLAGES

NOW and THEN

28-30 High Street, Ringwood.



Old photographs of the middle of Ringwood High Street are hard to come by. The photograph taken in 1988 shows only part of two cottages to the left of Pedlar's Walk. About a hundred years ago a dairy run by Leonard Martin occupied the shop on the right, 28 High Street. Later this became the Thorn family's shoe and shoe repair shop for many years. By 1988 it had been taken over by Bollom, a chain which combined shoe repairs with dry cleaning. More recently it was a carpet shop until last year the premises underwent a major refit and became the office of solicitors Dixon & Templeton.

Ringwood High Street's smallest shop has to be what for many years was a sweet shop known as The Chocolate Box. It is too tiny to have its own postal address as it is really part of 30 High Street. Recently the shop has become a

new venture, Cake Love run by Julie Costain, selling home-made cupcakes and cake-making accessories.

In the early part of the 20th century the whole of 30 High Street had been occupied by 'druggist' Mrs Laura Parkin. She was probably only selling patent medicines as it is unlikely she was a qualified pharmacist. Mrs Parkin also described herself as a stationer. By 1939 this shop had become a fishmongers owned by Mr. T.W. Steele and Sons.

During the middle of the 20th century both cottages were heavily modernised with new windows and different shop fronts. By the 1980s 30 High Street had become Belinda's bakery (a small part of its blind can be glimpsed on the extreme left of the 1988 photograph).

Today this shop is owned by Reeve and is now the only remaining bakery in the High Street.

