

## ROUNABOUT RINGWOOD & SURROUNDING VILLAGES

# NOW and THEN

Article and photo kindly supplied by Mary Baldwin  
**35, 37, 39 - 41 High Street, Ringwood**



The old photograph taken approximately 100 years ago shows part of the south side of the High Street, which if you look carefully at the first floor and roofline, is relatively unchanged today. It is clear from the architecture that the row of four premises was built at the same time, possibly in the 18th century as two town houses. Although the frontage is brick-built symmetrically, some of the interior is timber-framed, indicating possibly earlier origins.

By the early 20th century the building had been divided into four, three of which had acquired shop-fronts. On the far left in 1911 was Oliffe's Tearooms, owned by grocer and confectioner John Oliffe. For many years in the 20th century this remained a tearoom known as Daisy Darling. Nowadays it is the salon of popular hairdresser William Guy. The shop-front remains almost unchanged from the old photograph.

To the right of this shop was The Ringwood Supply Stores, run in 1911 by Miss Alice Brown, ladies' and children's outfitter and sister of Charles Brown the

printer. This shop had many different occupiers during the 20th century and is currently 'The Fox in the Forest', a gift shop owned by Vicki Elder.

Next was the only house to then still retain its original ground floor window and door. This in 1911 was the private home of Alice Brown's sister Mrs Maud Hadley and her son Rupert, a billposter. This house and the next shop were combined in the 20th century and until recently were the offices of Goadsby's estate agency. The remains of the original keystones of the ground floor window and door can just be detected above the modern fascia board.

Both The Fox in the Forest and Goadsby retain matching large distinctive fireplaces from which smoke would once have found an outlet through the enormous square chimney above.

If you've never noticed it, look up next time you're passing – it has to be the biggest chimney in Ringwood!

