

## High Street Stony Stratford

### Even Numbers

| Number | Name                    | Previous business  | Notes, Comments and Gossip   |
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| 72     | The Cock Hotel          | The Cock Hotel established c1350 (first reference as The Cock in 1529)       | C1990s the hotel was owned by Mr Chris Hellier, who sold it to Olde English Coaching Inns. Kelly's Directory 1939 refers to Cyril Stuart as tenant at this address. This Hotel is reputed to be the hotel mentioned in both the legend of 'a Cock and Bull Story' and the nursery rhyme, 'Ride a Cock Horse'. Miss Plumb, headmistress of the British School at No 34 High St) refers to 'The Blues Soldier' being publicly flogged in the alleyway to Vicarage Walk. It was destroyed in the fire started in the Bull Hotel in 1742 which decimated the rest of the High Street going north to St. Mary Magdalen's Tower. <u>It was rebuilt shortly afterwards.</u>   |
| 74     | The Cock Hotel          | The Cock Hotel established c1350 (first reference as The Cock in 1529)       | Kelly's Directory 1939 refers to Cyril Stuart Tennant at this address. This Hotel is reputed to be the hotel mentioned in both the legend of 'a Cock and Bull Story' and the nursery rhyme 'Ride a Cock Horse'. Miss Plumb, headmistress of the British School at No 34 High St) (Headmistress of The British School) refers to 'The Blues Soldier' being publically flogged in the alleyway to Vicarage Walk. Mr Rob Meakins has mentioned that "Mr Pratt of Deanshanger was the last porter at The Cock Hotel. He wore a smart brown uniform, white gloves and a cap with 'The Cock Hotel' on it. The Cock Hotel was rebuilt after the big fire of Stony Stratford in 1742. A Mr Revell, whose grave is in St. Giles' Churchyard, is reputed to have been the landlord at one time. Also, Mary Chapman was the landlady of The Cock Hotel in 1850, who reputedly started a horse bus business from the Hotel. A Mr Harvey? and a Mr Clark also have a connection with the Hotel, which was reputed to hang the poultry in the yard outside. There is also a connection with a Mr Ray White (a well-known Barber) who was practicing from the front of the Hotel (presently unidentified as to whereabouts) c1950/60s - a private house?) |
| 76     | Lovely Living Gift Shop | Wildman's music shop C1950s Penny Bazaar, proprietors Mr and Mrs Stan Hall.  | The bazaar whas a delight for local children as it seemed to specialise in toys, confectionery, household goods and and bric-a-brac. It was followed by Harry Wildman's Radio and TV, c1960s, and also pianos, gramophones, records and TVs. Later it became Mrs Wildman's Gramophone and Music Shop. Kelly's Directory 1939 noted Mr William King as a musical instrument dealer trading from these premises. Further record is found of P R Starr & Co operating as estate agents. An advertisement c1970s records Mr. Raymond A White as a Ladies and Gents' hairdressers and <u>tobacconists operating from this address.</u>  |
| 78     | Top Frock               | Cameo China. Smith - photographer? Ray Whites Barbers Shop and Ladies Salon. | Kelly's Directory 1911 - Hubert Jennison, tailor. Frederick Smith, photographer and picture framer (Kelly's 1907). Kelly's Directory 1939 lists Mr Leopold French Callow as a hairdressers called Raymondes at no. 76b and a tailor at no. 78. c1970s shows Foster & Scott Ltd, Mens Outfitters, later Evans Gents' Outfitters. An advert from 1970s refers to Look-in-Fashion at No 78 High Street.   |

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| 80       | National Westminster Bank Est 1971 | London County and Westminster Bank, then Westminster Bank.                       | There were offices upstairs for Gerrard Neale and Fennemores according to their advertisement c1970s. Kelly's Directory 1939 records the property as the Westminster Bank Chambers, which had traded there since 1911. Mr William Henry Haslam was Manager and it is also mentioned that his residence, using a separate entrance, was listed as No 82 at one time. Westminster Bank Chambers originally had a central doorway. Mr Ian Duffy was manager of the Westminster Bank in 1934.  |
| 82       | Connells Estate Agents             | Coventry Building Society. Wickens Gents Outfitters and Drapery shop (c1950/60s) | Nos. 82 and 84 were longstanding businesses owned by Mr Ernest John Wickens as a Gents Outfitters and General Drapery shop and also a Ladies' Outfitters and Dress shop next door. (Listed at Nos. 82 and 84 and also at No.59 as a house furnisher) in Kelly's Directory 1939) It has also been recorded that Margaret and David's Shoes traded from these premises. Mr Wicken was also the proprietor of No 61 High Street on the corner of Church Street, where he had a furniture shop, managed by Mr Braggins. The Wolverton Express, refers to Connells Estate Agents at No 84 High St, ,now Willen Hospice Charity Shop.  |
| 84       | Willen Hospice Charity Shop        | Wickens Ladies Outfitters and Dress shop   | Kelly's Directories of 1915 and 1939 list Ernest Wickens as Draper. Nos. 82 and 84 were longstanding businesses owned by Mr Ernest John Wickens as a Gents Outfitters and General Drapery shop and also a Ladies' Outfitters and Dress shop. It has also been recorded that Margaret and David's Shoes traded from these premises. Also noted was Evy Kible Ladies Hats associated with these premises. The domestic premises were rented to Madam Gurney c1735. Mr Wickens was also the proprietor of No 59 High Street where he had a Furniture shop, managed by Mr Braggins. Also noted (no date) Gosling and Co - draper and outfitter. The Wolverton Express newspaper refers to Connells Estate Agents at this address c1980s. |
| 84A      | National Tyre Company              | National Tyre Company Stores   | These premises were known as Millwards Yard c1950/60s. Part of the National Tyre Company Stores building is a listed building, now converted to offices. The premises appear to have previously been the Co-operative Company Bakery (residents of Stony Stratford used to take their Sunday joints to be cooked in the ovens in the past). An advert, c1970s shows Wheatley & Wood, tyre specialists, at both 84a and 86b High Street.  |
| 86E rear | Unique Car Services                | National Tyre Company Yard Mr Millward's Coal Offices                            | Vehicle Repair Shop. Mention has also been made of Johnson & Ibel, car repair business trading at these premises, which was also previously known as Millwards Yard. Mr Millward was the owner of a Coal Supply business who used part of No 86 as his offices in Millwards Yard. Mr Millward lived in a newly built property at No 109 High Street on the opposite side of the road. An advert, c1970s, shows Wheatley & Wood, tyre specialists, at both 84a and 86b High Street.   |

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| 86 | Osios Chiropractors           | Beer Bear, Furr & Purr in 1981<br>Mr Parker's Pet Shop. c1960/70s          | Mr A Woodman's Corn Shop, Frosts Butchers, a Candle and Soap Shop and a Betting office. Kelly's Directory 1939 - James G Knight, corn and flour merchant. Mrs Julie Watson (nee Aylott) supplied the following information from memories of her teenage years in the 1970s when she worked as apart time assistant for Mr and Mrs Parker in the pet shop: "Mr Parker sold budgies and canaries from the aviary in the back yard. He sold mice from the shop for a while and I remember they were new-born and looked like pink maggots. Mr Nigel Parker was a saddler by trade and I did small repairs to tack, easy stuff like reins and stirrup leathers. He did make saddles from scratch and was commissioned to make a western saddle which was highly elaborate with carvings, etc. It took months. The saddlery work-shop was at the end of the yard and up wooden stairs in a dusty freezing space, full of spiders. Only Calor gas heating and lots of hides hanging up waiting to be used. In the shop there was an old wooden drawer till; we used scraps of paper to jot down each price and then add it up. Some customers would buy lots of different bags so the maths for me was bad. I didnt like that a bit. It was just like mum's shop (No 83, Needlecraft over the road). The shop was smaller then; it didnt open up to the right hand side. That was when Markus, the following owner took over, who did that. It was long and thin before. Hay and straw were delivered in bales to the back side door. Helen and I used to get thistles and spinters filling big plastic bags and tying rubber bands round for small pets. Didnt like that job as no heat in the back store room." |
| 88 | Marine Fish World             | Hollywood Music<br>Busy Print<br>Johnny Evans Men's Outfitters (est. 1980) | Kelly's Directory 1915 - George Barlow, printers. Also reportedly The Printing Works of Willaim Nixon, Publishers of The Cottage Newspaper. There was also Benjamin Bridgman, Stationers and Printers. Kelly's 1939 - Ethel M Bridgeman, stationer, (separately reported is a Miss Bridgeman's Wool Shop). Kelly's 1939, also Henry J Harris printers. C1970s Mr Johnny Evans ran a gents outfitters and lived above the shop, also having previously been the manager of the Co-op Gents Outfitters at the other end of the High Street. To the rear, c1950/60s there was a Pickle Factory and the front of the property at the same time housed a printing company, possibly Harris Printers. The Stony Stratford Times was allegedly printed here. In 1950s the entrance to the property was central with steps up to a book shop.   |
| 90 | Mi Dental Practice (est 1976) | Sports shop<br>Fashion Flair   | Kelly's Directory 1939 lists Samuel Sayers, tinsmith, (previously shown to operate next to 106 High Street, now demolished). Crooks Fruit Shop - dates unknown. C1950s/60s the premises was owned by a Mr Gunn, Dental Practitioner, which was then occupied by Fashion Flair, a ladies fashion shop. It is uncertain, but this could have originally been known as Vanity Fair, a ladies fashion shop, which had previously occupied premises at No 8 High Street. The change of name came with the shop move. Then it became a Sports Shop. Presently the property has renamed to MiStony Dental Practice, which is run by Mr Mitash Patel, his father, Mr I A Patel having recently retired.   |
|    | MANSE CLOSE                   | Yard to rear of No 88 and No 90  | Access to previous pickle factory and printers. Also access to The Manse  |

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| 92 | Possible hostel                                      | The Vine. Umbrellas<br>Ken's Café c1950/60s                     | Ken's Café was part of a chain of transport cafes along the Watling Street (A5), which housed lorry drivers overnight in rooms upstairs or at the back. The café was considered as 'slightly dubious territory' for the youngsters of the town but at the same time was a magnet for them because it had a jukebox in the cafe. Following Ken's Cafe it became Umbrellas Fish Restaurant (est 1986) and Hotel, managed by Mr Chris Hellier, previously the manager of The Cock Hotel. It then became the Vine Restaurant. Note is also made of a Mr and Mrs Harry Elson as proprietors of a cafe at these premises. Mr Arthur Hall also had use of the premises as a grocery shop and Kelly's Directory 1939 shows Miss Olive Morris as a French and German teacher at the property. Also, Mrs C E Ison was Warden to the Youth Hostel Association at the premises. Historically, It is possible that the property had been The Three Swans Inn c1742 but it has also been reported that it was, possibly c1609, The Swan with Two Necks. According to Mrs Pam Egan, Edward IV introduced "Upping of the Swans" at the premises. He stayed at Stony Stratford but there could have been numerous "Swans" in the town at that time. It is rumoured to have been "The Swan with Three Necks", c1713. At some period, the property housed Elms China Shop and Drapers. The interior of the property is known for its fine oak stairway and parts of the property show signs of damage and is blackened by fire. It has also been used as accommodation in the past for people who were employed at St Paul's Preparatory School for Boys, c1950s/60s. For this purpose it was known as 'The Colony'. |
| 94 |  | The Different Drummer<br>Hotel and Al Tamborista<br>Restaurant. | No 94 was originally part of a larger establishment, with No. 92. No 94 was first registered as The Swan Inn (and possibly the Swan with Two Necks or The Three Swans). It was reputed to have been an antique market, possibly The Coach House, era unknown. It has also been identified as a business for Brumwells Cycles and also Meakins 3-wheel cycle hire business (at 1 hour for 2d). It also housed the staff from St. Paul's School for Boys.   |
| 96 | Tower House  | Parrott & Son Solicitors<br>c1950/60s                           | William Sydney Parrott lived in the premises and had his offices here. Reference is also made to Messrs. Horwood and James, Solicitors, who also practiced at these premises according to a 1970s advertisement. Kelly's Directory 1939 records a Mr James Owen Jones at this address and a Mr James Henry Coles, Solicitor, also practicing at this address. Further mention is made in Kelly's Directory 1939 of a Mr James Owen Jones, Solicitor, and Mr Albert John Walters, solicitor for Messrs Parrott & Son. It is also recorded that the troops were billeted at this property during the war. It is suggested that Ethel May (or Mary) Dell - novelist lived here for a time.   |
|    | <b>ENTRY TO ST MARY<br/>MAGDALENE<br/>CHURCHYARD</b> |   | This entrance could have been a lane called 'Red Lion Close' in a previous era.   |

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| 98  | Car Spares (est 1981)   | Slaymakers General Grocery Shop<br>c1950/60s.              | In 1710 William Thorne is reputed to have built the house for two tailors, John Rock and Richard King. At one time Plested's Grocery Stores also operated from here. Other names associated with the property include, Sadlers - books, Clarke - confectioners, (originally from Church Street) and during this occupation it was known that boys broke in through the window to steal cakes. Also mentioned was Bawden's Leather Goods. Kelly's Directory 1939 records a Mrs Mary Oswell, toy dealer, trading from this address. Recent information records two brothers, Mr. Julian and Mr. Quentin Rose as grocery retailers at the property c1980s for possibly two years.                |
| 100 | Casa Cento Italian Restaurant.  | Anatolia Turkish restaurant. Previously a Motorcycle shop. | Kelly's Directory 1915 records Mr. Thomas Clarke (who ran a bakery at 24 Church Street) also had a second outlet in the premises at No 100 High Street selling bread and refreshments. Kelly's Directory 1939 lists No 100 as Herbert W Bawden, saddler. Also noted is a Henry Butram trading as a cabinet maker from this address. Possibly a previous premises for Castles Government Surplus Stores, later operating from No 68 High Street until (April 2019). Anatolia Turkish Restaurant moved to 100 High Street. c1950/60s the property was used as a motor cycle shop for many years.  |
| 102 | Private residence - Occupier, Felicity Druet                                    |  | Property owned by Mr Edward Hudson, a Stony Stratford resident, who has made extensive research into his family history, listing all the residents of the property. A previous family owner was Sarah Elizabeth Hudson, whose gravestone can be visited in St Mary Magdalen's Church graveyard at the rear of the property. She died on 6th February 1854 aged 27 years.  |
| 104 | Private residence   | Mrs Carey  | Mr Williams, a chimney sweep had a connection with No. 104 and also possibly, a Mr Billy Wall, coal merchant. Mrs Pam Egan's Aunt Ede (Mrs Carey) resided at this address. She donated a grandfather clock to the Egan family, which had to be taken to their address in Clarence Road on a hand cart in 1958.  |
| 106 | Butterflies Dental Clinic (est. 1980 by Deborah H Graham, Dental Practitioner). | H J Beckett - coal merchant                                | Kelly's Directory 1939 records a Harry John Beckett trading as a coal merchant from this property. An advertisement from 1931 offers 'Beckett Coal Direct from the Pit Head'. In 1790 records show that the property was The Drum & Anchor Pub until 1790. Records also show the house was on site in 1487.<br><br>Mr Brian Dunleavy records an inn called The Coach and Horses established 1792. It is mentioned in the censuses of 1851 and 1861. The 1841 Census identifies Coach and Horses Lane as formerly Malletts Lane. This lane disappeared when St Pauls was built. The The Old Waggon Inn has been mentioned in connection with this site, where travelling wagons were restored. |

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|         | ENTRANCE ROAD TO FEGAN'S COURT                               | This could be the site of a long lost Claridge's Lane or Mallets Lane.              | Former building was a Mr Sam Sayers (tinsmith) living at the property, which was later demolished. He played the accordion. C1950/60s, on the lane approaching the Fegan's Court estate, were two private cottages. Mrs Pam Egan recalls one occupied by Mr William Hollyoake with 3 children, Rowland, Reginald and Margaret. He was a gravedigger and bell ringer. One of the houses still exists and c1950/60 it was the home of the official Stony Stratford Rat Catcher. This lane, at the northern end of town. might be identified with the older 'Pudding Bag Lane'. It appears as Claridge's Lane in the 1851 and 1861 Censuses and it is suggested that it is quite possible that it was called Claridge's Lane in order to spruce up its image. The second property was probably pulled down when the land was cleared to build St Pauls Court.  |
| 108     | Private residence  | c1950/60s home of Mr Baldwin.   | Originally noted to have been The Chapel. Lilly Kingsly lived here. This could have been the site of The Red Lyon Inn in 1710. It is possible there could have been The Lyon and Horseshoe Inn, c1751-1798 somewhere in this row of houses, which was later staff quarters for Fegan's home.  |
| 110     | Private residence  | c1950/60s home of Mr Ross   | Kelly's Directory 1915 records Samuel Sayers as a tinplate worker operating from here and also Lewis Lovel, jobmaster.  |
| 112     | Private residence  | c1950/60s home of Mr Mercer   | Kelly's Directory 1939 records Mr William Warr at the premises trading as coal merchant.  |
| 114     | Private residence  | c1950/60s home of Mr Siddons  | Kelly's Directory 1915 lists John Walmsley, wardrobe dealer.  |
| 116     | Private residence  | c1950/60s home of Mr Bill Marston   | Operated as Bed & Breakfast at one time.  |
| 118-124 | St Paul's Court. Calcutta Brasserie, offices and residential | Franciscan Preparatory School (until 1972). Fegans Homes for Boys. St Paul's School | In 1863/4 the Rev Sankey took over existing premises (which were believed to have been used as a school), to provide a private school called St. Paul's College at a cost of £40,000. The grounds included the existing chapel. It closed in 1895 and was for a brief time a cigar factory. The premises were then purchased in 1900 to house Mr Fegan's Orphanage and Training Homes for Boys. The Proprietor was Mr James William Condell Fegan, who ran the home with his wife until it closed in 1961. Prior to the property being used for schools, it was reputed to be the possible site of the Old Horseshoe Inn, which was cleared, together with plus 30 slum dwellings and some lanes to build Rev Sankey's School. Kelly's Directory 1939 listed a Mr Norman Edward Bennett as Superintendent at the Home. The facility was non-denominational and received needy and orphaned boys from all parts of the world. It closed in 1971. The buildings fronting the High Street were converted into dwelling houses and the Chapel became the Calcutta restaurant. Kelly's Directory 1939 records John Walmsley as a wardrobe dealer at 122 High Street, which no longer exists. |
| 126     | Private residence  | c1950/60 Bungalow   | Kelly's Directory 1915 lists James Whitworth Eales, refreshment rooms and the 1939 directory shows a Mr James Wentworth Eales as a shopkeeper. Mrs Pam Egan records Hill's Grocery Shop and milk supplier, c1950s/60s.  |

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| 128 | Property no longer exists - replaced by bungalow at 126         |  | It is reported that a Walmsley's second-hand shop operated from this property. Mrs Pam Egan noted 'the midnight milkman who took empty bottles away and refilled them during the night'.   |
| 130 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Mr Bateman as the owner of the property.  |
| 132 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Gill (?) at the property  |
| 134 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Roger at the property   |
| 136 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Gemma at the property   |
| 138 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records a Martin at the property  |
| 140 | Private residence   |  | Mrs Pam Egan records Mr Toombs at the property. Kelly's Directory 1939 refers to a Mr William Deville Meakins, a cycle agent at the property.  |
| 142 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Mr Jenkins at the property  |
| 144 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s PMrs Pam Egan records Mr Meakins at the property   |
| 146 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Mr Levitt at the property   |
| 148 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Mr Skidmore at the property   |
| 150 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Mr Barns at the property  |
| 152 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Mr Atkins at the property   |
| 154 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s Mrs Pam Egan records Mr Sturgess at the property   |
| 156 | ENTRANCE TO TOMB'S FIELD at rear of above properties            |  | Mrs Pam Egan records the Circus and The Old Gaff Travelling Theatre - presenting Kays: Maria Martin in Murder in the Red Barn  |
| 158 | Private residence   |  | c1950/60s New property owned by the Fox family - previously the site of Gas Mains House.   |
| 160 | Entrance to former gasworks - currently development land (2019) | c1950/60s Gasworks                                       | c1950/60s Pam Egan reports the gasworks were erected below the present road level and frequently flooded when the river overflowed. This could be the site of 'The Poor Houses' in Stony Stratford. Also rumoured to be the source of the town's 'ladies of ill repute': this area could be linked with the other side of the High Street where there is a local footpath running parallel to the back of the High Street, known as Harlot's Path, past the end of Temperance Terrace and re-entering the High Street at The Barley Mow Inn. |
| 162 | Development land (2019)   | Caravan Sales Offices; Gas Show Rooms                    |  |
| 164 | Development land (2019)   | Private residence. Caravan Sales Offices; Gas Show Rooms | Kelly's Directory 1939 records a Mr Frederick Barnard Waller of E T Ray Solicitors as occupier and Manager of Stony Stratford Gas & Coke Co Ltd  |

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| 166 | Development land<br>(2019)  | Private residence.<br>Caravan Sales Offices;<br>Gas Show Rooms | Mrs Pam Egan reports a Miss Davies residing in the property 1936. She gave piano lessons.  |
| 168 | Entry to Gasometer<br>Works |  | Mrs Pam Egan reports this was the gas producing plant and storage. Stony Stratford people used to go there with old prams, etc. to get coke when it came out of the ovens. Other products were ammonia and tar. In 1838 the demands for gas lighting and heating necessitated the local government body to establish The Stony Stratford Gas, Light and Coke Company on this land. The old Fire Engine House had stood on this land, which was demolished and the fire engine moved elsewhere. |