



# A History of Northbank House No 5 Bridge Street Leatherhead

NIZAM & TEAM

CHRISTIES  
RESIDENTIAL  
LET BY  
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01372 362555

built early 19th century  
restored 2015

# A History of Northbank House No 5 Bridge Street, Leatherhead

The Post Office Directory of Essex, Herts, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey and Sussex dated 1855 lists two people as "chemist and stationer" in Leatherhead. They are a Thomas Hill, and a Robert Parker. Unfortunately this directory does not give street names within smaller towns like Leatherhead so we cannot tell where they practised, nor whether they worked together or had rival businesses.

[SURREY.] LEATHERHEAD.

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POST OFFICE

**TRADERS.**  
Boxall John, wheelwright  
Burt Mary (Mrs.), 'Fox'

Devall Henry, grocer  
Griffin James, 'Red Lion'  
Page Nicolas, blacksmith

Richbell Thomas, farmer  
Wood George Cyrus, grocer & post-office, Tadworth

**POST OFFICE.**—George Cyrus Wood, receiver, Tadworth. Letters from London delivered at 9 a.m.; dispatched at  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 p.m. The nearest money order office is at Epsom

**INSURANCE AGENT.**—*Hops Mutual Life*, George C. Wood, Tadworth  
**OMNIBUS** from the 'Red Lion' to Sutton station,  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 morn.; returns 6 evening

**LEATHERHEAD** is a parish and town, 19 miles from London, 4 south-west from Epsom station, 12½ from Guildford, and 5 from Dorking, in Epsom Union, Hundred of Cophorne, West Surrey, Winchester bishopric. The town is pleasantly situated on a gentle rise from the river Mole, which is crossed by a bridge of 14 arches. Here are two posting houses and commercial inns, and malting, brewing, and tanning are carried on; and brick and tile works. There is a fair for pleasure on the 10th of October. It formerly had a market. There is a National and Infant school for the education of boys and girls; also an Independent chapel. The number of acres is 3,507, and the population, in 1851, was 2,041. The church is a venerable and ancient cruciform structure, and was supposed to

have been erected in the 13th century; it stands upon an eminence at the east end of the town, having a large square tower at the west end, with a clock. The benefice is a vicarage, in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Rochester; the Rev. Benjamin Chapman, M.A., is the incumbent. **PATTERSHAM**, or **PATCHENHAM**, is a hamlet of Leatherhead, with a population of 30. Felix Ladbrooke, Esq., is lord of the manor.

**THORNCROFT** is a part of the town. Barnet's Wood, half a mile north; Highlands, 1 mile east; Brockets, quarter of a mile south-east; Gibbon's Grove, half a mile south; Randall House, 1 mile north-west; Platsome Green, 1½ miles north-west.

Barlow Mr. James  
Blad Nathaniel, esq. Randall's park  
Bolton Capt. Richard, 'Grove'  
Bond Mrs  
Chapman Rev. Benjn. M.A. Vicarage  
Clarke Mr. Joseph  
Colvin Alexander, esq. Thornecroft  
Corrie Edgar, esq. Vale lodge  
De Moreils, the Countess  
Doughty Richard, esq  
Doughty Richard, jun. esq  
Fox Charles, esq  
Humphreys Robert, esq  
Hunter Misses, Elms house  
Lilycrap Captain, R.M  
Loat Mrs  
Long James Wakenham, esq. Linden vil  
Marshall John, esq  
Newsom William, esq  
Parke Samuel, esq  
Pullen Mrs  
Remington Reginald, esq  
Richardson George Fish, esq  
Simmons William, esq  
Smith William, esq  
Sparkes Mr. Thomas  
Stewart Mrs  
Streeter Mr. William  
Waite Rev. Edward [Independent]

Chitty Thomas, coal & corn merchant  
Christie David, farmer  
Christie Henry, nurseryman  
Church Thos. Bailey, relieving officer  
Clarke James, tailor  
Clarke William, tailor  
Coleman John, farmer & veterinary surgeon  
Constable John, 'Royal Oak'  
Cook James, farmer  
Cooper George, plumber & glazier  
Court George, shopkeeper  
Courtney Sydney, surgeon  
Edwards Dal, blacksmith & ironmonger  
Edwards William, butcher  
Elliott Thomas, shopkeeper  
Gardiner Samuel, shoemaker  
Gibbs Walter, coal merchant  
Goddard Joseph, shoemaker  
Gould Wm. farmer, Barnet wood farm  
Grantham Matthew, baker  
Grantham Thomas, baker  
Green Joseph, beer retailer  
Hack Thomas, cooper  
Halfacre Francis, tailor  
Hansher James, Bull inn  
Harding Richd. plumber, painter & glaz  
Harriott George, corndealer  
Harriott James, butcher  
Hewett Joseph, cooper  
Hill John, boot & shoe maker  
Hill Thomas, stationer & chemist  
Humphreys George, cooper  
Johnson Jeremiah, boot & shoe maker  
Jones Elizabeth (Mrs.), straw bonnet ma  
Karn James, wheelwright  
Kilbourn John, fruiterer  
Lawrence John, Duke's Head inn  
Legg Thomas, grocer & drsper  
Lipscomb Henry, builder & undertaker  
Lisney Rebecca (Mrs.), blacksmith  
Lloyd Elizabeth & John, saddlers

Marks James, baker  
Marks Thomas, baker  
Marter Emanuel, brick & tile maker  
Maury Francis, surgeon  
Moore Henry & Thomas, fellmongers  
Moore William, Swan commercial inn & posting house  
Nash William, surgeon  
Newman George, farmer  
Ottaway James, beer retailer  
Palmer William, grocer & draper  
Parker Robert, chemist & stationer  
Parker Robert, teacher of music  
Payne Joseph, Mansion house grammar school  
Petch John, shopkeeper  
Peters James, butcher  
Piercy Catherine & Mary (Misses), ladies' boarding school  
Pym George, linen draper  
Risbridge William, coal merchant  
Scott Thomas, chimney sweeper  
Sharp Ann (Miss), milliner & dressma  
Shaw William, tailor  
Simms Elizabeth (Mrs.), brick & tile ma  
Skilton John, 'King's Head'  
Skilton Richard, dealer in marine stores  
Spicer William, 'Running Horse,' & bricklayer  
Steel William Henry, hairdresser  
Stone Edward, brewer  
Sturges Charles, farmer  
Sturges Walter, butcher  
Terry Charles, beer retailer  
Tidy Thomas, blacksmith  
Tomlin Thomas, boot & shoe maker  
Ventham Charles, coachmaker  
Walker George, builder & cabinet ma  
Walker John, beer retailer  
Webbs Eliza (Miss), baker  
Winter David, cowkeeper  
Young Thomas, fishmonger

**TRADERS.**  
Ainsworth Wm. clock & watch maker  
Arthur Geo. Frederick, grocer & draper  
Batchelor William, carpenter & builder  
Billinghurst William, hairdresser  
Blake James, shoemaker  
Blake Richard, seedsman  
Braithwaite William, lath render  
Brown William, carpenter  
Buckle William, wood dealer  
Bullen Richard, carrier  
Chandler William, fishmonger  
Chitty Bartholomew, tanner

**POST OFFICE.**—Thomas Hill, postmaster. Money orders are granted & paid at this office. Letters arrive from London at 3 a.m. &  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 p.m.; dispatched at 11 a.m. &  $\frac{1}{2}$  before 11 p.m. Box closes at 10 p.m. Letters are received until  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 p.m. with extra stamp; two deliveries daily, 7 a.m. &  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 p.m.

**INSURANCE AGENTS.**—*Accidental Death*, Thomas Parker  
*European Life*, Thomas Hill  
*Guardian Fire & Life*, Robert Parker  
*Phoenix Fire & Pelican Life*, Emanuel Marter  
*National School*, Thomas Haynes, master; Miss Mary Dennis, mistress  
*Registrar of Births & Deaths for Leatherhead district*, Thomas Hill

**POSTING HOUSES.**—Duke's Head inn, John Lawrence; Swan inn, William Moore

**OMNIBUSES.**—**TO EPSOM STATION**, every morn.  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 & 5 min. past 9 & 10 min. past 4 aft. returns 11 morn. & 30 min. past 6 even. On sundays, 8 morn. & 6 even. returns 11 morn. & 9 even  
**FROM BRIGHTON.**—*Age*, every mon. wed. & fri. at 2 aft.

for London; from London, every tu. th. & sat. at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 12 for Brighton

**TO LONDON**, daily, from the Swan inn  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 morn. to meet the 10 min. past 9 train at Epsom. Continues by road to London, leaving the Spring hotel, Ewell,  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 9 through Cheam, Morden, Merton, Tooting, Balham hill & Clapham to the Elephant & Castle, arriving at the White Bear, Piccadilly, at 11; returning thence at 4 p.m. to meet the  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 5 train from London Bridge, arriving in Epsom  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 6

**TO BOX HILL STATION**, daily,  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 & 1 p.m. returns  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 11 morn. &  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 6 even. On sundays,  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 morn. returning after the arrival of the 57 min. past 6 down train

**CARRIERS.**—Mrs. Mary Bullen, van, every Tues. & fri. morn. to 'Catherine Wheel,' Borough, 'Bour & Castle,' Oxford st. & Vine inn, Bishopsgate st.; returns the following morn. Chillson Beisley, from Guildford, every Tues. & fri. to the 'George inn,' Borough, & 'Rose,' Smithfield; returns wed. & sat. Other carriers pass through here during the week.

However we can place Thomas Hill in Bridge Street thanks to an 1850s engraving of the former Mansion House Grammar School. This is marked: (Engraving by W. T. Harris of London) Published by Thomas Hill Chemist & Stationer Bridge Street Leatherhead.

Edward Hewlins has arrived by the 1860s. Here is his advertisement which includes the supply of fine leeches, various soaps, sheep dips, and medicines for humans and for horses and cattle. He is also an agent for the Clerical Medical & General Life Assurance Society – but these extras don't make him a charlatan; he is after all a Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, which had been founded in 1841. It did not become the 'Royal' Pharmaceutical Society until 1988. Note the spelling of 'Letherhead' despite the Post Office directories using 'Leatherhead'.

**EDWARD HEWLINS,**

*Chemist,*

**LEATHERHEAD,**

Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.



**Prescriptions and Family Recipes accurately  
dispensed.**

**GENUINE PATENT MEDICINE.**

**FINE LEECHES.**

*Jean Marie Farina's Eau de Cologne ; Treble  
Distilled Lavender Water.*

**FINE TURKEY & HONEYCOMBE SPONGE,**

**Tooth, Nail & Hair Brushes.**

**ALL KINDS OF PERFUMERY, OLD BROWN WINDSOR,  
HONEY & OTHER SOAPS.**

**Surgical Elastic Stockings, Socks and Knee Caps requiring  
no lacing, for the relief of varicose veins, weakness, &c.,**

**Horse and Cattle Medicines of all descriptions. Agent for  
Briggs' Sheep-Dipping Composition.**

**Agent for Clerical, Medical and General Life  
Assurance Society.**

We know Hewlins was also a stationer. Here is his advertisement for that activity, from the same date. The mention of "In all its branches" leads us to ponder where else Hewlins practices at this time. However, the name does not appear in other towns in the Post Office Directories of 1855 and 1878.

**EDWARD HEWLINS,**

*Stationer, Bookseller, &c.,*

**LEATHERHEAD.**

**EVERY DESCRIPTION OF STATIONERY, ACCOUNT-BOOKS,  
MEMORANDUM BOOKS & DRAWING MATERIALS**

**BIBLES, PRAYER AND CHURCH SERVICES IN VARIOUS BINDINGS.**

**All kinds of Fancy Stationery, Albums & Pocket Books.**

**BOOKBINDING & PRINTING in all its Branches.**

**WATER COLOURS AND DRAWING PENCILS.**

*Hon. Secretary to the Art-Union of London.*

The 'Art-Union of London' was a subscription society, founded in 1837, which promoted the art of design and distributed artistic works to its members through annual lotteries.

The next reference to the building is in *The Post Office Directory of Surrey* dated 1878 which shows: Hewlins, Edward, pharmaceutical chemist & stationer, Bridge Street.

2282 LEATHERHEAD.

SURREY.

[POST OFFICE

Scott Robert Charles, surgeon R.N. Church street  
 Skilton John, Norfolk villas  
 Smith John Edmund, Poplar road  
 Sturgess Mrs. Gravel hill  
 Sturgis Russell, The Grove  
 Swanston Clement Tudway, q.c. Flint house, Highland park  
 Swanston Mrs. 10 Clinton road, Highland park  
 Thompson George, Bridge street  
 Tomlin Thomas, Bridge street  
 Towgood Misses, Epsom road  
 Turner Merryweather, Fairfield  
 Utertton Rev. Frank Ernest, M.A. [vicar]  
 Virgoe Mrs. High street  
 Waugh Alexander, Bridge street  
 White Henry, Kingston road  
 Wood John Hurd, M.D. Manor house, Church street  
 Woods Miss, Bridge street  
 COMMERCIAL.  
 Alcock George, school, Church street  
 Army Schools Office, (John Edmund Smith, secretary), Poplar road  
 Austin James, gardener, Headley road  
 Bailey F. J. boot maker  
 Bartholomew John, Bull commercial inn & posting house  
 Batchelar William Henry, builder & contractor, High street  
 Batten James, hair dresser, Church at Batten Sush. (Mrs.), toy dr. Church st  
 Beach James, Duke's Head, High st.  
 Blaker Alfred, furnishing & general ironmonger, gas fitter, whitesmith & bellhanger; iron fencing, hurdles, &c. & dealer in agricultural implements, North street; & at Fetcham  
 Brown Geo. & Wm. builders, Church st  
 Brown Geo. rate collector, Church at Bramwell Mary (Miss), cowkpr. North st  
 Budd Sarah (Mrs.), lodgng. ho. Church hl  
 Butt James, baker, Common  
 Carpenter Henry James, astronomer, Reigate villas  
 Cheeld John, grocer, London street  
 Chitty Thomas (Mrs.), tanner, Bridge st  
 Christie Henry, frmr. Highland Pk. frm  
 Christie Witr. nurseryman, London st  
 Christmas George, farmer, Barnett Wood farm  
 Clark William, tailor, North street  
 Clarke Arthur Samuel, grocer & draper, Bridge street  
 Cleer William, boot maker, North st  
 Coldman Robert, Old Running Horse, Bridge street  
 Covell George, miscellaneous dealer, Kingston road  
 Cooper George, plumber &c. Church st  
 Cox Edwd. chimney sweeper, North st

Cox Robert George, fancy repository & bookbinder  
 Day Stephen, grocer, & agent for W. & A. Gilbey, wine & spirit merchants, Bridge street  
 Edwards William, butcher, Bridge st  
 Eggbeer Mary (Miss), boarding & day school for young ladies, St. John's rd  
 Fuller Benjamin, beer rldr. Kingston rd  
 Gardner John, gardener, Bridge street  
 Gardner Samuel, shoe maker, Bridge at Gates George, lodging house, Reigate villas, Highlands  
 Gibbs Walter (Mrs.), coal merchant & maltster, Church street  
 Giles Theophilus Ridgway, chemist, 1 London street  
 Grantham Chas. cabinet mkr. North st  
 Grantham Edmund, baker, High street  
 Green Adrian Joseph, relieving officer, & sec. of gas works, Gravel hill  
 Greig William, land steward to John Henderson, esq. Randall farm  
 Hewitt Joseph, cooper, Reigate street  
 Hewlins Edward, pharmaceutical chemist & stationer, Bridge street  
 Hicks Robert, photographer, 25, JOHN ST  
 Hyatt Sarah (Miss), ladies' school, Church street  
 Ibbs Robert, boys' school, Church at James James, farmer, Highlands farm  
 Jenden Thomas, grocer, Common  
 Johnson Jeremiah, shoe mkr. Bridge at Jones John, Royal Oak, Common  
 Kara Elizabeth (Mrs.), wheelwright, Kingston road  
 Keeble Hy. Coleman, veterinary surgn  
 Kingsnorth Frederic, baker, Bridge st  
 Lamb Ebenezer, draper, High street  
 Leatherhead Gas Works (Adrian Joseph Green, sec.) Kingston road  
 Lee Charles Isaac, corn dealer, Bridge st  
 Legg John, grocer & draper, Bridge at Lipscomb Henry, builder, Bridge street  
 Lisney Josph. & Geo. blacksmiths, High st  
 Lloyd Alfred, harness maker, Bridge at London & County Bank (branch of) (Edward Frederick Watson, manager), North street (open on Fridays from 11 to 3); draw on head office, London  
 McCormick Alexander, farm bailiff to Russell Sturgis, esq. Grove farm  
 Marshall Charles, tailor, Church street  
 Martin John, coach builder, North st  
 Maspero Wm. Angelo, watch ma. High st  
 Milton William, Swan tap, High st  
 Mole John, milkman, Common  
 Moore George & Co. ale, pale ale & porter brewer, Swan brewery  
 Moore Emily (Mrs.), Swan hotel & posting house, High street  
 Moore Henry Woolstapler, coal & corn merchant, North street

Moore James, plumber &c. High street  
 Neate Henry, shopkeeper, North street  
 Neate Stephen, provision dealer, High st  
 Owen Francis, surgeon, Church street  
 Peters James, butcher, North street  
 Pooley Eliza (Mrs.), baker, Bridge st  
 Pym George, postmaster & linen draper, Bridge street  
 Radge Richard, registrar of births & deaths, Church street  
 Rapley William, shoe maker, High st  
 Rich Charles, tailor, High street  
 St. John's Foundation School for the Sons of Poor Clergymen (Rev. E.C. Hawkins, M.A. head mstr.), Epsom rd  
 Scott Waltr. (Mrs.), greengr. High st  
 Sharp Ann (Miss), milliner, Bridge at Shaw William, tailor, High street  
 Shepherd Herbert, gasfitter, North st  
 Shepherd Herbert, tobacconist, Church st  
 Shepherd William, greengr. High st  
 Siggery Richard, shoe maker, Fairfield  
 Sinums Maria (Mrs.), berlin wool repository, High street  
 Skilton George, King's Head, High st  
 Skilton James Thomas, ironmonger, Church road  
 Smith H. Lionel, school for boys, Fairfield  
 Stanbury Samuel Downing, linen draper & outfitter, Bridge street  
 Sterling George Allen, builder, decorator & house agent, London street  
 Stevens James Wm. grocer, High st  
 Stone William, cart owner, Bridge at Symonds John, butcher, High street  
 Thompson Horace, fishmng. Bridge st  
 Thora John, shopkeeper, Fairfield  
 Tribe Ellen (Mrs.), Indrss. St. John's rd  
 Tribe William Henry, grocer, North st  
 Upfold Abraham, inspector of police  
 Valentine George, farm bailiff to E. Budd, esq. Vale Lodge farm  
 Ventham Chas. coach builder, Bridge at Virgoe William Randall, corn & coal mer. High st. & at the Railway stati  
 Wade Arthur, butcher, High street  
 Walker Felix, builder, Bridge street  
 Walker John, Plough, Kingstone road  
 West Alfred, saddler, Church street  
 Wild Ann (Mrs.), baker, Bridge street  
 Williams Hiram (Mrs.), boarding & day school for young ladies, Fairfield  
 Wilson Edward, boot maker, Bridge st  
 Wood Elizabeth (Miss), ladies' school, Bridge street  
 Wood John, brick ma. british & foreign timber merchant & steam sawing mills  
 Wood John Hurd, surgeon, Manor house, Church street  
 Worsfold John, farmer, Patchenham  
 Young John & Son, brewers, maltsters & wine & spirit merchants; & at Dorking. See advertisement

LEIGH is a village and parish 3 miles south-west from Reigate and 26 from London, on the river Mole, in the Mid division of the county, Reigate hundred, union and county court district, Reigate rural deanery, Southwark archdeaconry, and Rochester diocese. The Church is named St. Bartholomew the Great: it consists of chancel, nave & low tower; on the floor of the chancel are several slabs and brasses, bearing memorials of the Arderne family, who were owners of Leigh Place, now a farm house. The register dates from the year 1570. The living is a vicarage, yearly value £140, with residence, in the gift of the Dendy family, and held by the Rev. Henry Edmund Legh, M.A. of Balliol College, Oxford. H. Smith's charity of £30 yearly is for clothing. Mynthurst, the residence of James Wilson, esq. is pleasantly situated 1 mile south-east. The principal land-

owners are Miss Dendy, the Duke of Norfolk (lord of the manor), Charles Kaye Freshfield, esq. M.P. W. D. Freshfield, esq. H. R. Freshfield, esq. J. Dymond, esq. J. Clutton, esq. Sir T. Lawrence, bart. M.P. and E. Charrington, esq. The soil is clay; subsoil, clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley and roots. The area is 3,418 acres; rateable value, £3,769, and the population in 1871 was 560.

DAWES GREEN is half a mile west. Parish Clerk, George Lovell.

POST OFFICE.—George Parsons, receiver. Letters arrive from Betchworth at 7.50 a.m. & 12.30 p.m.; dispatched at 6.15 p.m. The nearest money order office is at Betchworth National Schools, Miss Elizabeth Mary Lovell, mistress

Charrington Edward, Bury's court  
 Style Rev. Frederic, M.A. Vicarage  
 Wilson James, Mynthurst  
 COMMERCIAL.  
 Charman Elizabeth (Mrs.), Plough  
 Clutton John, farmer, Little Flanchford  
 Flint James, blacksmith  
 Hayler Geo. frmr. & miller, Shelwood mill

Homewood Henry, farmer  
 Hosegood James, farmer, Brook farm  
 Martin Thomas, farmer, Dean farm  
 Parsons Geo. post office, & shopkeeper  
 Perrin William, farmer, Nalderswood  
 Pescud Thomas, farmer, Park house  
 Rowell John Charles, farmer, Clay hills  
 Sharp Benjamin, farmer

Skelton Geo. Seven Stars, & shopkeeper  
 Stacey Arthur, farmer, Leigh place  
 Taylor Thomas, carpenter & builder  
 Warren James, farmer, Bunt's common  
 Warren Stephen, farmer, Hook's farm  
 Watson Wm. Farnell, farmer, Shelwood  
 Weller Stephen, farmer, Bunt's common

Several photographs, some published by Frith's as postcards, show Northbank House only sideways on. Its presence can be discerned from the outline of a chemists' pestle and mortar symbol at the fascia level (above the doorway, between the shop's windows and those of the first storey).

This photograph from the Leatherhead Museum collection is dated circa 1905 and shows the final white 'S' of 'HEWLINS' and the word 'stationer'. The original small window panes can also be seen here, rather than the large plate glass windows of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. The building to its right is The Old Leather House.



The next photograph seems to date from the same period, judging by the similarity of its features:



A Frith's postcard of 1906 shows the chemists' shop with a pair of lamps outside, probably gas-lit, as the street-lamp would have been at this date. The Hewlins name can be made out on the fascia, and some of the shop's Bridge Street neighbours can also be seen here.



As in the photograph above, the word 'HEWLINS' appears alone on the shop's fascia in our next picture. The neighbouring watchmakers and jewellers is Frederick Palmer & Son', established here in the 1890s. Note also the new direction signs for Kingston, Cobham and Esher on the wall of the bakery.



By the 1920s William Richard Hewlins has succeeded his father, and by the 1930s he has a partner, in George Hughes. They trade for some time as 'Hewlins & Hughes'. Gone are the shop's external gas lamps.



The picture above allows us to consider the quite grand nature of No 5 Bridge Street. A pharmacist was a person of some substance and respect in their town. We know that the building was not as deep then as it became in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. Nonetheless the pharmacist's family would have had quite pleasant rooms over the business.

Note the spectacle frame at the right hand end of the fascia to Frederick Palmer & Sons.

This 1930s advert tells us the incumbent was indeed Gordon Hughes, and the business now has a telephone. Gordon Hughes Chemists remained in business until the early 1970s:

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*If you CAN'T TAKE your MEDICINE  
We'll send it for you.*

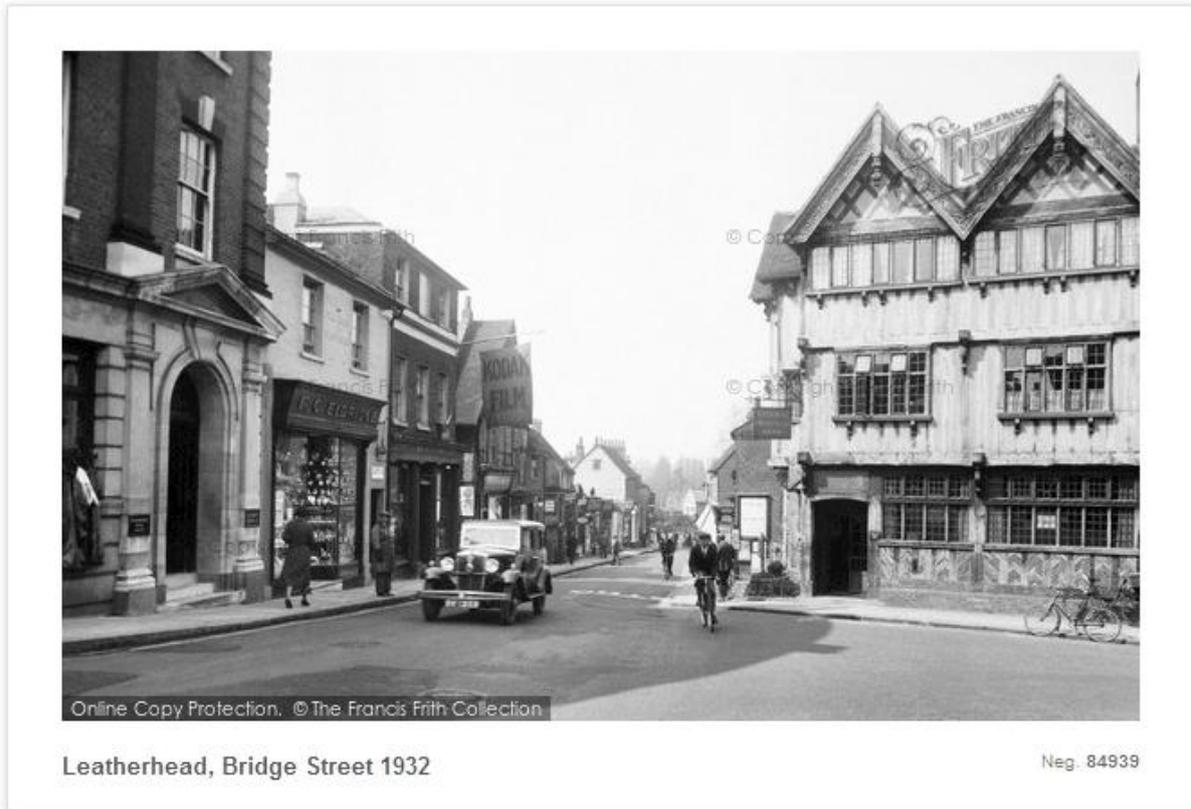
**GORDON HUGHES, M.P.S.**  
Dispensing & Family Chemist,  
**BRIDGE STREET, LEATHERHEAD.**  
TELEPHONE 2120.

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Above the pestle and mortar symbol this 1932 Frith's postcard image shows a Kodak Film banner hanging from between the first and second storeys. As well as selling rolls of photographic film, chemists' shops would accept films for processing locally or by Kodak's laboratories at Harrow. A brand new bank building replaces the bakery seen in the 1906 postcard. The jewellers next-door was taken over by F C Eldridge in the 1920s. In addition to the usual services they advertised 'Oculists' Prescriptions accurately carried out'.

## Leatherhead, Bridge Street 1932



On this next postcard the name of the bank on the right has been obliterated – perhaps to avoid advertising, and it appears that the Kodak flag has been pulled in against the building. As in the picture above, there seems to be an electric street-light on the wall between Hewlins and Eldridge's.



On 7<sup>th</sup> September 1951 the building's status and significance was recognised when it was given this Grade II listing:

LEATHERHEAD BRIDGE STREET TQ 1656 SE (south side) 12/102

7.9.51 No. 5

GV II

Shop with dwelling over, now shop and office. Early C19; altered. White-painted stucco, slate roof. Rectangular plan with narrow frontage. Three storeys and 3 bays, symmetrical; plinth, cornice over ground floor, moulded string course at 2nd floor; the ground floor shop front has fluted Doric semi-columns framing a central doorway which has glazed double doors with margin panes and a deep 2-pane overlight, and plate glass windows each side; the entablature is now a modern painted fascia under a cornice; above are sashed windows with 12 panes at 1st floor and 9 panes at 2nd floor, all with plain reveals and raised sills. Hipped roof with projecting eaves. To the rear, attached by a short link with a pitched roof, is a block of similar proportions, the south facade of which has 12-pane sashed windows at 1st floor and tall 9-pane sashes at 2nd floor. Interior not inspected.

Listing NGR: TQ1654456422

National Grid Reference: TQ 16544 56422

Looking up Bridge Street in Frith's 1955 postcard we again see the pestle and mortar chemists' symbol, but no Kodak flag. As we are only seeing the outline of the building we cannot tell what name is painted on the fascia at this date. Now the junction has traffic-lights and there is a Gascoigne-Pees estate agents beside the bank on the left.



In 1965 the Frith's postcard again shows the chemists' symbol only sideways-on. This is now in the safe keeping of the Leatherhead Museum. This is the first time we see the chemists' shop-front painted in a lighter colour. Eldridge's has gone, replaced by a builder's hoarding.



By the late 1960s the business was known as The Bridge Pharmacy. Here is an advertisement of that time which claims the significant heritage that the pharmacy was founded in 1840:

*The*  
*Bridge Pharmacy*



A Chemist's shop was established at  
**5 BRIDGE STREET . LEATHERHEAD**  
in 1840. We are proud to continue the tradition  
of nearly 130 years of personal service.

In addition to supplying your **Medical** and  
**Surgical** requirements we are **Sole Agents** in  
the district for : **Chanel** and **Marcel Rochas** perfumes  
and the Cosmetic Houses of **Cyclax** · **Innoxa** · **Dorothy**  
**Gray** · **Leichner** · **Lentheric** · also soaps by **Bronnley**  
We are also Agents for : **Helena Rubinstein** · **Revlon** etc.

**5 BRIDGE STREET . LEATHERHEAD**  
Telephone : 2120

The building looks rather sad after The Bridge ceases to be a pharmacy, and indeed has ceased its 1980s incarnation as a perfume shop, with the updated telephone number of Leatherhead 72120:



It next becomes The Carpet House, selling rugs and carpets, until the late 1990s when a succession of owners ran it as a coffee house.

In July 2015 the building underwent a further transformation. The upper floors had already been converted into four apartments, with a further apartment in the rear portion of the ground floor.

The retail premises at the front were sensitively renovated and became

### **Nizam & Team Hair Salon**

under its owner-manager Hakan Ozmen, - 'Oz'.

*Edited by Peter Steadman who is grateful to local historians  
Roy Mellick, Goff Powell, and Brian Hennegan,  
and to volunteers at the Leatherhead Museum,  
whose researches have been essential to the production of this booklet. August 2015.*

***Over the Other Bridge***, by Goff and Brian, tells the story of Bridge Street and is on sale at Barton's Bookshop and at the Museum.



FORWARDS  
ESTATE AGENTS (01372) 374806

NIZAM & TEAM

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