

# WEST SIDE OF BROOK STREET

## **INNER RING ROAD**

### **THE QUEEN'S ARMS: Number 21 & 23 Brook Street**

The Queen's Arms was demolished when this end of Brook Street vanished under the course of the Inner Ring Road.

The modern entrance to Brook Street, after the construction of the Inner Ring Road is 'The Stanley Arms' on the left and the 'Catholic Social Club' on the right.

### **STANLEY ARMS: Number 37 Brook Street**

The 'Stanley Arms' takes its name from a family from Chester who lived in Stanley Palace (Chester's finest Elizabethan house located on Watergate Street). Some of the members of the Stanley Palace became the Earls of Derby.

One of the members of the family, James Stanley who was in fact Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, was a Royalist supporter during the English Civil war. In 1651, he attempted to raise an army in order to support Prince Charles. However, he was defeated near Warrington and was captured. He was then put on trial in Chester, sentenced to death and executed in Bolton.

Situated near the cattle market, the Stanley Arms was originally on the Cattle route, it is thought that horses were stabled nearby for travellers.

The current building was built in 1925.

### **CHESTER TANDOORI: Number 39 to 45 Brook Street**

Part of a row of former Georgian cottages (extending to 61).

The "People's Café," which stood on this site, had a famous "hole in the wall" where, in the late 1970's, it was possible (perhaps only for the desperate) to purchase a fairly basic "burger" or soup very late at night (until after 03:00hrs, according to some accounts).

Chester Tandoori believe that their food is both authentic and exceptional due to the standards of selecting the finest ingredients and spices to make you meal and experience to remember. The chefs take the very best ingredients and combine them with fresh herbs and spices to create a variety of flavoursome Indian meals, with something to suit every palette.

The Chefs are highly trained.

Head Chef, Mr Shofiqur Rahman: A very highly trained chef originating from Biyani Bazar, Bangladesh. Having worked alongside many high profile and household names all over Bangladesh, he has enhanced his array of culinary skills further by taking charge of kitchens in many of the 5 star hotels in Bangladesh such as Hotel Sharaton and Purbaani to name a few.

Chef, Mr Tapas Mandal, is a highly trained Indian chef originating from Goa. Having published numerous recipes in various Asian food magazines and also being Head Chef of the highly acclaimed five star hotel Cicade de Goa for the last ten years, he is now at the Chester Tandoori developing a new menu which will not be found anywhere in the area.

**CASH FOR CLOTHES – SECOND HAND SHOP: Number 47 Brook Street**

**NAOMI CHANTELLE’S HAIR SALON: Number 49 Brook Street**

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Naomi Chantelle from Chantelle’s Hair Salon

**GENTS HAIRDRESSER / BARBER: Number 51 Brook Street**

**PRIVATE: Number 53 Brook Street**

**SPINDLE & WEAVE: Number 55 Brook Street**

**A1 DESIGNS: Number 55 Brook Street**

A1 Designs is a garment printer and embroiderers.

**GREY ‘N’ PINK RECORDS: Number 57 Brook Street**

Grey ‘n’ Pink records is a small compact shop, which has an extensive collection laid out over two floors. They claim to have the largest selection of new, second hand and collectible vinyl records and CDs in Cheshire.

Established for over 25 years, the shop specialises in vinyl LPs, 7" and 12" singles, CD albums and CD singles. They stock everything from 1950s rock n roll to indie and rap, but no easy listening, classical or dance

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Mike from In the Land of Grey’n’Pink

### **STEPTOES: Number 59 Brook Street**

### **TRUDI'S TUTUS & DANCEWEAR: Number 61 Brook Street**

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Trudi from Trudi's Tutus & Dancewear

### **THE SPICE BALTI: Number 63 Brook Street**

Late Victorian / Edwardian retail premises with living accommodation over. The Spice Balti was the second "Indian" restaurant in Brook Street.

### **PARTY BALLOONS: Number 65 Brook Street**

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Alan Farrington from Party Balloons

### **DEE SPORTS: Number 67 Brook Street**

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Stewart Tattersall from Dee Sports

### **GRILL MAKER: Number 69 Brook Street**

Eat & Go

### **BROOK STREET CAFÉ AND BISTRO: Number 71 Brook Street**

Number 71 is an early 19th century town house. This building, with its corner setting, has a sympathetically restored shop front, which extends into the alleyway, which is almost in an American "Diner" style, however the cornice appears to be from earlier Victorian shop front. This was previously a motorcycle shop, run 'by bikers for bikers.' Prior to that it was a branch of the Chester Co-operative Society.

The 'Brook Street Café and Bistro, serves a good "All day breakfast" for a very reasonable price.

### **BROOK STREET MURAL**

The alleyway, between No. 71 and No. 73 contains the Brook Street Mural, on the wall of No. 73.

Completed in the summer of 2011, the Brook Street street-scene is animated with references to events from the past, including the 'cow parade' during which cattle were driven through Brook Street from the railway station to the cattle market (Gorse Stacks), and across Cow Lane Bridge to the slaughter house.

### **CHESTER COMIC CO.: Number 73 Brook Street & 75 Brook Street**

A pair of early 19th century Georgian style town houses.

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Alistair William-Blake from Chester Comic Co.

### **BACK & SIDES: Number 75 Brook Street**

### **McCOLL'S: Numbers 77 TO 81 Brook Street**

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Nicola from McColls

### **ISTANBUL BBQ: Numbers 83 & 85 Brook Street**

Serving a wide range of authentic Turkish cuisine and Turkish beer.

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Ali Karabacak & Mark Jones from Istanbul BBQ

### **CHESTER SPICE MARKET: Number 87 Brook Street**

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Sandeep Jarajapu from Chester Spice Market

### **MDM POLISH FOOD MARKET (Dwa Koty): Numbers 89 to 93 Brook Street**

Previously this was a general hardware store "BARGAINS of Chester" with an elderly shopkeeper, named Tommy Edwards. Tommy had started life as a chimney sweep, but "accidentally" got into the mail order-business when he realised that he could market a hair trimmer at low cost. His business expanded rapidly until it employed over a hundred people. Unfortunately, he was not very good at financial management and got into cash-flow problems, which led to a bankruptcy. He ran the "junk" shop on Brook Street until his death, in his shop, in the 1990's.

### **AMAKAI: Number 91 Brook Street**

### **SPICE OF ASIA: Number 95 - 97 Brook Street**

Number 95 Brook Street was once an early Chester "picture-house" (cinema) of which the present building was the foyer.

The Spice of Asia opened in 2007 and sell not only Asian spices but frozen seafood, fresh vegetables, Thai food, Afro Caribbean food, Soft drinks, snacks and much more

### **CHESTER COMUTER CENTRE: Numbers 99 Brook Street**

Chester's largest independent computer retail and electronics repair specialist. Established in 2004, Chester Computer Centre has served the needs of customers from our high street store located in Chester. Recently they have extended our reaches to cover the entire UK with our new e-commerce enabled website [chesterrepaircentre.co.uk](http://chesterrepaircentre.co.uk)

### **MALTBY'S OF CHESTER: Numbers 101 to 103 Brook St, Chester CH1 3DX**

The mid 19th century industrial building was originally a leather tannery, then an engineering works (Henry Lanceley, Son & Co.) It is now outlet, Maltby's, selling mainly carpets.

Henry Lanceley, Son & Co. was typical of engineering firms in Chester. It grew modestly in the late 19th century by exploiting opportunities in the region. Founded c. 1869, the firm started in a small way in George Street but after a move to larger premises in the same street, in the mid 1880s it took over a former tannery in Brook Street and converted it into the Providence Foundry and Engineering Works. In 1881 Lanceleys' business was largely concerned with satisfying the jobbing engineering requirements of other Chester enterprises, but it dealt with an extremely wide range of customers, and activities ranged from repairing mangles to supplying complete steam engines and boilers. By 1909 the volume of business had almost doubled and about half was from outside the city.

In the 1900s Lanceleys benefited from the growth of John Summers's steelworks at Shotton and the sheet metal industry at Ellesmere Port, but the firm also carried out contracts along the north Wales coast, in the north-east Wales coalfield, and in the rural areas south-east and east of Chester. Even so, with a turnover of under £10,000 in 1908-9, it was a relatively small enterprise.

Part of the premises seems to have been occupied by "J. Ridley" who sold both push-bikes and "wireless" equipment.

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Mike Leech from Maltby's

### **TASTY CHINA: Number 105 Brook Street**

### **THE HAIR & BEAUTY LOUNGE: Number 107 Brook Street**

### **FAR EAST FLAVOUR: NO. 109 Brook Street**

Far East Flavour is an oriental supermarket offering high quality cooking ingredients as well as fresh vegetables and frozen products from the Orient. Far East Flavour stock Thai, Chinese, Filipino, Malaysian, Korean and

Japanese food. Every thing you need to make your favourite oriental dishes or even ready made meal! Far East Flavour are based on Brook Street, Chester, close to the train station and with parking outside the shop.

### **VACANT:**

#### **SCOPE: Number 115 Brook Street, Chester.**

The Chester (Brook Street) Scope charity shop sells quality new and second-hand clothes, books and many other things to surprise and delight. We always need your donated goods.

Scope sells second-hand clothes, shoes, accessories, homeware, bric-a-brac, books, CDs, DVDs, games, musical instruments, sports equipment and collectibles. They also sell new jewellery, DVDs and greeting cards.

Refer to Stories from Brook Street: Interview with Chris Smethurst, Manager at Scope Shop.

#### **FUNERALS FROM THE HEART: Number 117 & 119 Brook Street**

#### **COCOA ROOMS: Number 121 Brook Street**

The Cocoa Rooms is an example of a high quality Arts & Crafts style building, dated 1880.



One of the sign at the Cocoa House shows the five petals of the Cocoa flower and the name "Railway Cocoa Rooms." The sign "Chester Cocoa House Company (Limited)" is also located on the building.

For many years after it ceased to be the "Railway Cocoa Rooms" this was the home of "City Strippers" a firm specialising in restoring pine goods (doors and furniture), for a while it was an excellent Greek restaurant and then an even better Italian restaurant. In the summer of 2011, this attractive and historic building was reopened by Beer Republic as a bar/restaurant called Kash. The bar is supplied by a microbrewery

#### **CHESTER CAR HAND WASH & VALET SERVICE: Number 123 Brook Street**

#### **NAUGHTY 'N'NICE (ADULT SHOP): Number 127 & 129 Brook Street**

#### **BARBER'S SHOP: Number 131 Brook Street**

**VACANT: Number 133 Brook Street**

**GOLDEN DRAGON TATTOO STUDIO: Numbers 135 & 137 Brook Street**

**FIRST CLASS CAFÉ: Number 139 Brook Street**

**PRICE MARK: Numbers 141 & 143 Brook Street**  
Convenience Store

The northern end of Brook Street near the course of the original “Flookersbrook” is a typical "railway station / industrial" townscape. The photograph shows a very full Chester Station car-park. Parking is a major local issue in the surrounding residential streets

