

# Welwyn Garden City

## 'High Street'

Part 3 1960s – present day

## Welwyn Garden City – High Street Shops 1969 - 2010

- By the late 60s, the town had expanded and the number of shops had grown significantly
- A major change to the town was the building of the Howard Centre completed in 1992.
- The Howard Centre has changed the town's shopping significantly but has led to the growth of numerous charity shops and coffee shops.

# Welwyn Garden City – High Street Shops 1969 - 2010

STREET	1969	1987	2010
<b>Howardsgate (North)</b>	<p>Welwyn Card Centre (Cards, Gift Wrapping) The Garden Shop (Garden Requisites) Clark Quinney &amp; Co (Estate Agent) Barclays Bank Ltd Post Office Eastern Gas Board Showroom Simons Ltd George Munt Ltd (Cycles, Baby Carriages, Toys) A J Howard (Estate Agent)</p> <p>H J Edwards (Gents Outfitters) W C Pritchard (Tobacco and Confectionary) W E Turner Ltd (Footwear) W J Elliott Ltd (Music and Radio Dealers) Lloyds Bank Ltd Dolcis Shoes Ltd (Shoe Retailers) Ivy Farley (Ladies and Gents Hairdressers) Janets (Janet Blair Ltd (Ladies Outfitters) Notts (Bakers) Ltd (Bakers and Confectioners) True Form Ltd (Shoe Retailer) F W Woolworth &amp; Co Ltd (Department Store)</p> <p>British Railways Station</p>	<p>Fads (DIY Shop)</p> <p>The Garden and Pet Centre John James (Estate Agent) Barclays Bank Ltd Post Office Eastern Gas Board Showroom Simons Ltd Halfords (Motor &amp; Cycle Accessories) A J Howard (Estate Agent) P R Taylor Jones (Optician) Next (Boutique) Tait's (Newsagent and Confectionary) W E Turner Ltd (Footwear) Lockey's (Travel Goods) Lloyds Bank Ltd K Shoes (Shoe Retailer)</p> <p>DER (TV Rental Shop) Freeman Hardy Willis (Shoe Retailer) Kentucky Fried Chicken (Restaurant) F W Woolworth &amp; Co Ltd (Department Store) British Railways Station</p>	<p>Pizza Hut (Restaurant) The Welwyn Barber (Gents Hair Dresser) CoCo (Beauty Salon) The Garden and Pet Centre (Pets and Gardens) Swinton (Insurance) The Cork (Bar &amp; Restaurant) Post Office Caffe Nero (Coffee Bar) Simons Ltd Halfords (Motor &amp; Cycle Accessories) Oriental Health (Chinese Medicine) Litchfield (Jewellers) Cube (Gents Outfitters) Martin's (Newsagent) (Vacant) Scrivens (Optician) Lloyds TSB</p> <p>Shoe Zone (Shoe Retailer) M &amp; Co (Ladies Fashions) SpecSavers (Optician) Snappy Snaps (Photographic Supplies) Vision Express (Optician) McDonalds (Restaurant)</p> <p>Howards Centre (Multi Shops and Network Rail)</p>
<b>Howardsgate (South)</b>	<p>The Carpet Centre (Carpets)</p> <p>Midland Bank Ltd Achille Serre Ltd Palmer &amp; Gilbert (Electrical Retailer and Contractor) Carnills (Children's Wear) W H Smith &amp; Son Ltd Boots Ltd (Chemists, Photographic Materials)</p> <p>A Godshaw (Watchmaker and Jeweller) "The Work Basket" Clavel (Ladies and Gents Hairdressing) Eastern Electricity Supply Showrooms Lincrest Ltd (Ladies Fashions) Halifax Building Society Brickwall Nurseries Wm Perring &amp; Co (Furnishers) Abbey National Building Society Fourboys Ltd (Newsagent) R M Luddington (Taxis) Wimpy Bar (Restaurant)</p>	<p>Raffles (Hair Dresser) Trustees Saving Bank Mr Pickway (Takeaway Food) Midland Bank Ltd Gateway Building Society Neil Roskow (Opticians) Imperial Cancer Fund (Charity Shop) W H Smith &amp; Son Ltd Boots Ltd (Chemists, Photographic Materials) Threshers (Off-licence) A Godshaw (Watchmaker and Jeweller) Hermit (Wool Shop)</p> <p>Eastern Electricity Supply Showrooms Pickfords Travel (Travel Agents) Halifax Building Society Brickwall Nurseries</p> <p>Abbey National Building Society Prontepint (Printing) Clarks (Shoe Retailer) Andes Travel (Travel Agency) Poppins (Restaurant)</p>	<p>ASK (Restaurant)</p> <p>HSBC (Bank) AGE UK (Charity Shop)</p> <p>Cancer Research (Charity Shop) Superdrug (Pharmacy) Sainsbury Metro (Temporary Food Store ) Blockbuster Video (Video Rental) Kall Kwick (Business Printing)</p> <p>D &amp; A (Opticians) Pizza Express (Restaurant) Halifax Building Society Lamberts (Florist) Costa (Restaurant) Ann Harvey (Ladies Fashions) Holland &amp; Barrett (Health Food) Bonmarche (Ladies Fashions) Santander (Bank) Welwyn Vision (Opticians) Gamestation (Computer games) Poppins (Restaurant)</p>
<b>Stonehills</b>	<p>Westminster Bank Ltd National Provincial Bank Ltd Baxters (Butchers) Ltd Burton Tailoring (Tailors) Co-op Creaseys of Hertford Ltd (Office Supplies) Curry's Ltd (Radio, TV, Electrical Goods) J H Dewhurst Ltd (Butchers) Dorothy Perkins Ltd (Ladies Fashions) Freeman, Hardy &amp; Willis (Footwear) Manor Carpets Ltd (Carpet Retailer) F Meyers Ltd (Fruiterers, Florist, Greengrocers) Petra Fabrics (Furnishing Fabrics) Sketchley Ltd (Dyers and Cleaners) Stanley Fabrics Ltd (Household Linens) Welwyn Fisheries Ltd (Fish Fryers and Restaurant)</p>	<p>National Westminster Bank Ltd Nationwide Building Society Bryce Simmons (Estate Agent) Burton Tailoring (Tailors) Co-op Woolwich Building Society Curry's Ltd (Radio, TV, Electrical Goods) M H Cousins (Insurance Brokers) Dorothy Perkins Ltd (Ladies Fashions) Aspect (Furniture) Heath Carpets W Austin &amp; Sons (Funeral Services) Choice (Gift Shop) Sketchley Ltd (Dry Cleaners) Wooltons Curtains (Drapery) Welwyn Fisheries Ltd (Fish Fryers and Restaurant) John James (Estate Agent) Card Centre (Card Shop)</p>	<p>Nat West Nationwide Building Society HAART (Estae Agent) Isabel Hospice (Charity Shop) Debenhams (Department Store) Messages Cards (Card Shop) Ranstad (Recruitment Agency) A-Plan Insurance (Insurance) Evans (Ldies Fashion) BEBO (Café) Welwyn Carpet Mills (Carpets) Country Properties (Estate Agent) Stonehills (Hair Dresser) Subway (Take Away) Greggs (Take Away) Welwyn Fisheries Ltd (Fish Fryers and Fine &amp; Country Estates (Estae Agency) Premier People (Recruitment Agency)</p>
<b>Parkway</b>	<p>Embassy Cinema The Fountain (Restaurant)</p>	<p>Miss Selfridge (Clothes Shop)</p> <p>The Fountain (Pub)</p>	<p>Parkway Bar (Pub)</p>
<b>Bridge Road</b>	<p>Cherry Tree (Restaurant) Welwyn Department Store Fire Station</p>	<p>Beefeater Steak House (Restaurant) John Lewis</p>	<p>Waitrose (Superstore) John Lewis</p>

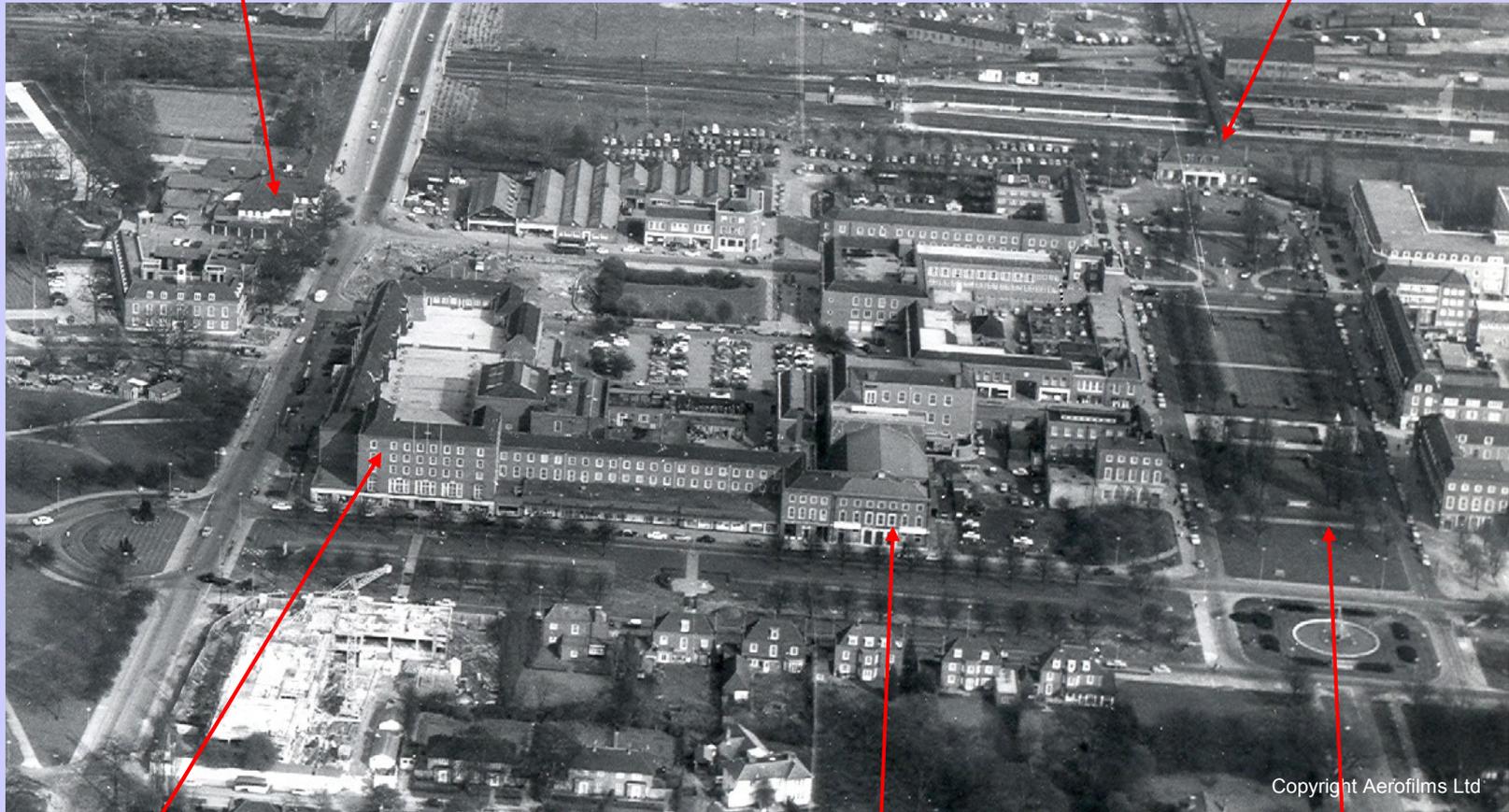
# Welwyn Garden City – High Street Shops 1969 – 2010 (Cont)

STREET	1969	1987	2010
Frertherne Road	<p>Edith Williams (Travel Agent)</p> <p>H A Blunt &amp; Son Ltd (Model Railways, Aircraft, Ships and Eastmans (Dyers and Cleaners)</p> <p>Fine Fare (Supermarket)</p> <p>Edmund Goodrich (Domestic Stores)</p> <p>Grenada Rentals (TV Rentals)</p> <p>Heath &amp; Heather (Health Foods)</p> <p>A H Lambert (Greengrocer, Fruiterer &amp; Florist)</p> <p>Lee &amp; Cooper Ltd (Outfitter, Camping Goods)</p> <p>Lockey Bros. Ltd (Leather Goods)</p> <p>Marilyn (Ladies Fashions)</p> <p>Quick Service Boot Repairs</p> <p>Skillacres (B.M.) Ltd (DIY Shop)</p> <p>J.T &amp; A.R. Webb (Tobacco and Confectionery)</p>	<p>Travel Centre (Travel Agent)</p> <p>Oriental Express (Takeaway food)</p> <p>The Personnel Touch (Dry Cleaners)</p> <p>Fine Fare (Supermarket)</p> <p>Oxfam (Charity Shop)</p> <p>Grenada Rentals (TV Rentals)</p> <p>A Cut Above (Hair Dresser)</p> <p>A H Lambert (Greengrocer, Fruiterer &amp; Florist)</p> <p>Master Lab (Phot Processing)</p> <p>Selectaglaze (Double Glazing)</p> <p>Benetton (Fashions)</p> <p>Timpsons (Shoe Repairs)</p> <p>Academy Two (Hairdresser)</p> <p>Supasnaps (Phot Processing)</p>	<p>Dominos Pizza (Take Away)</p> <p>Kasino (Game Machines)</p> <p>The Cooperative Travel (Travel Agency)</p> <p>KFC (Restaurant)</p> <p>Johnsons (Dry Cleaner)</p> <p>Iceland (Frozen Food)</p> <p>Oxfam (Charity Shop)</p> <p>Argos (Catalogue Shop)</p> <p>Wild About Hair (Hair Dresser)</p> <p>A H Lambert (Florist)</p> <p>WG&amp;C &amp; Grill (Take Away)</p> <p>British Heart Foundation (Charity Shop)</p> <p>NV (Beauty Salon)</p> <p>Timpsons (Shoe Repairs)</p> <p>Academy (Hair Dresser)</p> <p>Funky Joe (Childrens Clothes)</p> <p>Blue Arrow (Recruitment Agency)</p> <p>Italian Spice (Italian Restaurant)</p>
Church Road	<p>Sydney Rumbelow Ltd (Radio, Records, TV, Electrical)</p> <p>Blakey Morris &amp; Co Ltd (Wallpapers and Paints)</p> <p>National Provincial Bank Ltd</p> <p>B &amp; M Cooper Ltd (Chemists)</p> <p>Josephine (Finchley) Ltd (Newsagent)</p> <p>Mac Fisheries (Fish and Greengrocery)</p> <p>J Sainsbury Ltd (Supermarket)</p> <p>Sargent &amp; Thom Ltd (Tailors and Shirtmakers)</p> <p>John Weller (Shoe Retailer)</p>	<p>Sydney Rumbelow Ltd (Radio, Records, TV, Electrical)</p> <p>First (Boutique)</p> <p>Jennings (Bookmaker)</p> <p>P M Samuels (Chemist)</p> <p>Marc Lawrence (Hairdresser)</p> <p>Dolland &amp; Aitchison (Opticians)</p> <p>J Sainsbury Ltd (Supermarket)</p> <p>Our Price (Records)</p> <p>The Welwyn Bookshop (Book Shop)</p> <p>Lake (Butchers)</p> <p>A Jones &amp; Son (Shoe Shop)</p> <p>Central Garage</p> <p>Mr Toby's Carving Room (Restaurant)</p>	<p>City Pharmacy (Pharmacy)</p> <p>Marc Lawrence (Hair Dresser)</p> <p>Pound Stretcher (Department Store)</p> <p>All About Me (Beauty Salon)</p> <p>Future Gifts (Gift Shop)</p>
Wigmores	<p>Crusader Restaurant</p> <p>Wing On (Restaurant)</p> <p>Andre Hairstyles (Ladies and Gents Hairdressers)</p> <p>Antone of Mayfair (Ladies Hairdressers)</p> <p>A M Boon (Artist Materials)</p> <p>Booth's China Store (China and Glass)</p> <p>Brighter Homes (Wallpaper and Paint)</p> <p>Contessa Ltd (Corsetry, Lingerie, Hosiery etc)</p> <p>Coxheads Rentals Ltd (Radio, TV, Electrical Goods)</p> <p>Cresta Silks (Ladies Fashions)</p> <p>Fifi's Fashions (Ladies Wear)</p> <p>Focus (Gift Shop)</p> <p>Foster Brothers Ltd (Gents Outfitters)</p> <p>Hornbys Ltd (Fota-Fina) (Photographic Suppliers)</p> <p>Ronald Godfrey Ltd (Jeweller)</p> <p>Janets (Children's Wear)</p> <p>Carnills (Children's Wear)</p> <p>G J Pearce Ltd (Bakers and Confectioners)</p> <p>Pond Tool Co (Tools, Ironmongery etc)</p> <p>The Carpet Centre (Carpets)</p> <p>Sargant &amp; Thom Ltd (Tailors and Shirtmakers)</p> <p>Stadium Sports Ltd (Sports Goods)</p> <p>Ralph Taylor Ltd (Gent's Outfitters)</p> <p>Thoebald Sewing Machines (Sewing Machines, Knitting)</p> <p>Westminster Wine Co (Off-licence)</p> <p>Woodhouse Ltd (House Furnishers)</p> <p>W H Lee (Estate Agent)</p>	<p>Toby Grill (restaurant)</p> <p>Red Panda (Chinese Restaurant)</p> <p>Raymond Leslie (Hair dresser)</p> <p>Academy One (Hairdresser)</p> <p>Boon Galleries (Artist Materials)</p> <p>Homesteads (Video Shop)</p> <p>Dorinda (Boutique)</p> <p>Contessa Ltd (Corsetry, Lingerie, Hosiery etc)</p> <p>Radio Rentals (TV Sale and Rental)</p> <p>Lunn Poly (Travel Agent)</p> <p>Ace Collection (Ladies Wear)</p> <p>Focus (Gift Shop)</p> <p>Foster Brothers Ltd (Gents Outfitters)</p> <p>Wycombe Cameras (Photographic Suppliers)</p> <p>Ronald Godfrey Ltd (Jeweller)</p> <p>Thomas Cook (Travel Agents)</p> <p>French's Bakery (Bakers)</p> <p>Millets (Outdoorwear)</p> <p>Ritz Toys (Toy Shop)</p> <p>Stadium Sports Ltd (Sports Goods)</p> <p>Ladbrokes (Bookmaker)</p> <p>Peter Dominic (Off-licence)</p> <p>Times Furnishings (Furnishings)</p> <p>W H Lee (Estate Agent)</p>	<p>Café Trio (Restaurant)</p> <p>TJ Nail Bar (Beauty Salon)</p> <p>Andre Hair Salon (Ladies Hairdresser)</p> <p>Backhouse Bet (Bookmaker)</p> <p>Reed (Recruitment Agency)</p> <p>Kastaways (Boutique)</p> <p>Connells (Estate Agent)</p> <p>Natural Health</p> <p>Fuhao (Restaurant)</p> <p>Pavillion (Restaurant)</p> <p>(Vacant)</p> <p>Godshaw (Jeweller)</p> <p>Favorite Pizza (Take Away)</p> <p>Tabrizi (Mens Clothes)</p> <p>City Sounds (Music)</p> <p>Putterills (Estate Agent)</p> <p>Ladbrokes (Bookmaker)</p> <p>Austins (Funerals)</p> <p>Blacks (Outdoorwear)</p> <p>William Brown (Estate Agent)</p>

# Aerial Picture of town centre 1969

Cherry Tree Restaurant

Railway Station



Welwyn Department Store

Welwyn Theatre

Howardsgate



**Howardsgate – Eastern Gas and Munts  
(Now Nero Cafe and Halfords)**



**Stonehills – Cooperative Society  
(Now Debenhams)**

**1960s**



**Early 60's Stonehills – Munts and Dickenson & Adams (Garage)**

**Buying for LEISURE** **Buying for a TREASURE**



Cycles	Nursery Furnishings	Baby Carriages
Raleigh, Triumph, Phillips, B.S.A. etc.	Cots, Playpens, Pillows, Karri-Kots, Mattresses, Pram Rugs, Pram Bags, High Chairs, etc.	Silver Cross, Marmet, Pedigree, Leeway, Allwin, Tan Sad, Swallow, Restmor, Royale, etc.

# MUNT'S

**MAKE BUYING A PLEASURE**

Large stocks wide price-range deferred terms

**Stonehills, Welwyn Garden City**  
Telephone 22395

**21 High Street, Hitchin.**  
Telephone 2029

**Eastcheap, Letchworth**  
Telephone 1678

**CYCLES : BABY CARRIAGES**  
**SPORTS GOODS : TOYS**

For a *good meal* served *without delay*  
at *reasonable prices* try

## WELWYN FISHERIES

### Restaurant, Stonehills

We offer a variety of dishes, excellently cooked under most hygienic conditions

*Parties catered for Tel: WG 25080*

Hours of opening :    Tues. – Thurs. 11.30-2.00    5.00-10.30  
   Fri. – Sat.        11.30-2.00    5.00-11.00

## Sketchley Cleaners



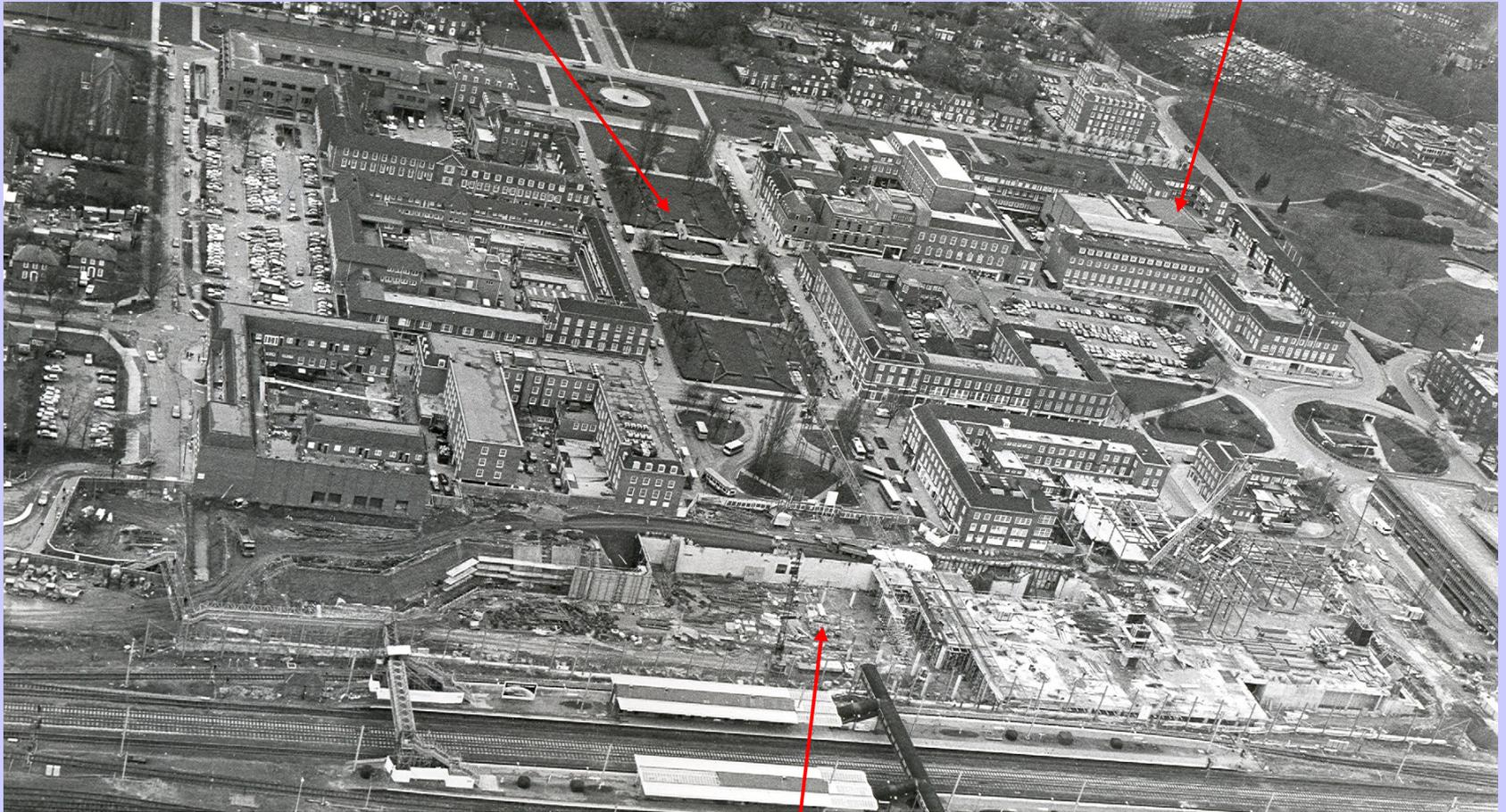
Quick Service  
Same-day Cleaning  
Sponge and Press  
Garment Repairs

**Sketchley Cleaners**  
30 Stonehills, Welwyn Garden City  
Tel.: 22529

# Welwyn Garden City Town Centre - 1989

Howardsgate

Welwyn Department Store



The Howard Centre under construction

# Welwyn Garden City – High Street Shops 2010 – Howard Centre

- The Howard Centre was opened in 1992
- A number of shops transferred in from the existing 'High Streets' as well as a number of new ones.
- Vacancies created in the town centre were taken up by Charity Shops, Opticians, Estate Agents and Building Societies

STREET	2010
Howard Centre	Marks & Spencer (Clothes)
	Sport Direct (Sporting Goods)
	Thomas Cook (Travel Agent)
	(Vacant)
	(Vacant)
	Fun House (Toys)
	YMCA (Charity Shop)
	Computer Centre (Computer Store)
	O2 (Mobile Phone Shop)
	Network Rail (Rail Station)
	The Kiosk (Newsagent)
	(Vacant)
	Maher (Book Shop)
	Repairs Plus (Shoe Repairs)
	Starbucks (Café)
	Toni & Guy (Hair Dressers)
	The Gold Bar (Gold Trader)
	First Choice (Travel Agent)
	Elegance 4U (Boutique)
	Etcetra (Gift Shop)
	Stevenson & Parker (Opticians)
	Julian Graves (Health Food)
	Muffin Break (Café)
	Boots (Optician)
	Topshop (Womens Clothes)
	Clarks (Shoe Shop)
	The Body Shop
	JJB Sports (Sporting clothes and equipment)
	Wallis (Womens Clothes)
	Game (Computer Games)
	Clinton (Card Shop)
	JD (Sporting goods)
	Orange (Mobile Phone Shop)
	Sony Centre (TV and Electrical Goods)
	Gimme Gizmo (Gift Shop)
	Bags (Travel Bags)
	Card Factory (Cards)
	Vodafone (Mobile Phone Shop)
	Early Learning Center (Childrens Toys)
	Next (Clothes Shop)
	W H Smiths (Newsagent and books)
	Boots (Pharmacy)
	Dorothy Perkins (Womens Clothes)
	Burtons (Mens Clothes)
	Carphone Warehouse (Mobile Phone Shop)
	Ernest Jones (Jewellery)
	Thorntons (Chocolate shop)
	Goldsmiths (Jewellery)
	Monsoon (Womens Clothes)
	Accessorize (Womens Boutique)
	H Samuel (Jewellery)
	T Mobile (Mobile Phone Shop)
	Mota de Peppe (Shoes)
	Claire's (Fashion Accessories)
	New Look (Womens Clothes)
	Barclays (Bank)

# Welwyn Garden City – High Street Shops 2010 – Howard Centre

Howard Centre Interior



# To the present day..

- Welwyn Garden City does not have a High Street in the accepted sense. Shopping has evolved over a number of connected roads all centred around Howardsgate.
- In the last 30 years, significant changes have taken place:
  - Increased number and choice of shops
  - Driven by increasing population of Welwyn Garden City
  - Has overtaken Hatfield as a main shopping centre
- Increasing traffic and car ownership have created major problems to parking and getting around
  - Far beyond what the original founders could have envisaged in the 1920s
- The Howard Centre and John Lewis have become the focal and main shopping areas in the town.
- John Lewis, which took over Welwyn Department Store in the 1980s, dominates, bringing in shoppers from around the surrounding district making Welwyn Garden City a popular shopping town to the detriment of the traffic problems.



THE HOWARD CENTRE



Carphone Warehouse



ERNEST JONES

