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## Still Open: The Guide to Traditional London Shops

*Sally Venables, Steve Williams*

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**Sally Venables, Steve Williams : Still Open: The Guide to Traditional London Shops** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Still Open: The Guide to Traditional London Shops:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great book for those who love London By MMM Wonderful pictures and well researched descriptions of the shops that are Still Open! Great gift from someone who loves London.

"Still Open" is an intimate and personal tour of some of the capital's best-kept secrets, the traditional shops that have managed to stay open and flourish in the face of this increasingly fierce competition. From the pie and mash shops of the East End, to the 1950s Italian delis of Soho, to James Taylor and Son's classic umbrella shop on Gower Street, "Still Open" also takes in butchers, florists, coffee shops, clothes shops, toyshops and milliners. The establishments' interiors and exteriors are beautifully photographed by renowned photographer Brian Benson; and the history of each is told by their proprietors and customers. Personal anecdotes, historical documents and the city's broader history are all invoked as "Still Open" weaves a compelling tapestry out of the many strands that make up the highways and byways of London. Accessibly divided into geographical areas, "Still Open" sketches out a portrait of the city and its history - both its well-trodden routes and its hidden gems. A guide-book with a difference, "Still Open" is essential for both Londoners and tourists alike. It is at once a social history, a photographic essay on interior design through the ages and an affectionate look at the last vestiges of romance on the high street.

London is world famous for its multitude of shops, but Knightsbridge and Oxford Street are just the tip of the iceberg. Each area of London -- from Hackney to Hampstead, from Putney to Peckham -- has its own distinctive atmosphere, shops and unique history. Unfortunately, the homogenisation of the downtown is beginning to blur these distinctions. Still Open is an intimate tour of some of the capital's best-kept secrets, the traditional shops that have managed to stay open and flourish in the face of this increasingly fierce competition. From the pie and mash shops of the East End, to the 1950s Italian delis of Soho, to James Taylor and Son's classic umbrella shop on Gower Street, Still Open also takes in butchers, florists, coffee shops, clothes shops and milliners. The establishments' interiors and exteriors are beautifully photographed and the history of each shop is told by their proprietors and customers. Still Open is at once a social history, a photographic essay on interior design through the ages and an affectionate look at the last vestiges of romance in the commercial center of England. About the Author Writer Sally Venables is a partner in a successful interior design company, and joined forces with Brian Benson, an established interiors photographer for the purposes of this publication. Designer Steve Williams is an art director working for Conde Nast and recently designed Fly: The Art Of the Club Flyer. Following on from Black Dog Publishing's Classic Cafes and Barbershops, Still Open is at once a social history, an essay in interior design through the ages, a guide-book and an affectionate look at the last vestiges of romance on the high street.