

## ALBION ROAD

Albion Road is one of the oldest roads in the village. In the earliest map of Birchington [1688], Albion Road is labelled '**Way to the Sea**'. By 1872, when the first 'modern' map was made, it was called '**Coleman's Lane**' and led from the Square right down to the sea. When the next review was made in 1898, it had been named '**Albion Road**' from the Square as far as Alpha Road. There was a house called 'Albion House' – the first one on the right side, from the Square. Its first occupant was Thomas Pointer, who ran the Post Office on the corner of Albion Road and the Square, but the house does not appear until about 1900, so must have taken its name from the road.

One other name appears on some early land deeds – "**Wilson's Lane**" – almost certainly for the same reason that it took on Coleman's name for a while. Wilson owned a lot of land in the area and Wilbrough road owes the first three letters of its name to a descendant of the same man. His land lay mainly to the east of Albion Road and went up as far as the present Alpha Road. His ownership was later than Coleman, coming into the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup>.