

## MORRISON BELL CHILDREN'S HOME

Charles Britton, who now lives in 1, Harrier House, Washington Road, STORRINGTON, PULBOROUGH, W. Sussex RH20 4RE, was sent to spend some time in the Morrison Bell Children's Home in Albion Road Birchington before the Second World War. It would appear from later information that it was sometime around 1920-26. He had developed TB and was by this date recuperating well, but needed good food and plenty of fresh air. While he was staying there, his mother came to visit him and stayed in a guest house in Albion Road. Many of the large houses on the east side of the road took guests during the summer months.

Although Charles was not yet in great health, he was sent to the local Infant School, which in the early days was in Albion Road. It was housed in the old Primitive Methodist chapel, which was let to the Church at a peppercorn rent by Mrs Susan Gray from Birchington Hall. The building was not really very suitable for such young children, but there was a green meadow to the right of the school, which was later used to build the telephone exchange and part of Col. Taplin's Birchington Engineering Works on. The children stayed in the Chapel until 1926, when the purpose built Infant School was opened in Park Lane next to the Boys' and Girls' Schools.

Charles Britton brought his wife to stay in Birchington in 2007, so that he could trace his childhood memories of those early days here.



c. 1925