

CHESTNUTS, THE, Worthing Road

The original Post Office was at The Chestnuts in Worthing Road, run by Mr Burchett between 1881 and 1901. Later, he built a new post office and shop next door (now Mallards, estate agents), and the old stone shop became the local butcher's shop, run by Tommy Standen. The backyard was the abattoir where the pigs and the brine tub for salt beef were kept. Many local boys rode the butcher's bike around the village to make deliveries. They were usually paid in sausages.

The Chestnuts was demolished in the 1980s and the two houses built on the site have retained the name.

Bob Piper recalls the following: *"I worked for Tommy Standen from just before my tenth birthday until I left school at 14 in 1939. I was too small for the trade bike at first, so I delivered from a basket on the handlebars of my own bike. I was paid 2/6 for a Saturday or 10/- for a full week Monday to Saturday during the school holidays. I sometimes had to help in the slaughterhouse"*



Post Office, Southwater.

Postcard thanks to Bob Piper