

# ROUNDBABOUT RINGWOOD & SURROUNDING VILLAGES

## NOW and THEN

12-14 High Street, Belfred, Ringwood.

1950s



1960s



January 2018

The building shown in the 1950s photograph, 12-14 High Street, is still recognisable today, although the ground floor has changed several times. Note that, like many properties in Ringwood, its central first floor window has been blocked up, probably as a result of the Window Tax.

In the early part of the 20th century this house was occupied by widow Jane Gadsby, laundress, and her son Frank, a millwright. Frank later became a barber and also a photographer. By 1939 Brown's Directory shows that his apprentice Harold MacKrell had taken over his hairdressing business in the small shop on the left, number 14. In 1948 Mr Gadsby was listed as still occupying 12 High Street with Watts & Faulkner, electrical contractors, at number 14. This suggests that the premises

had been split by that time. During the 1950s W C Brinton, building contractor, plumbing and electrical supplies, had his office and showroom at 14 High Street with his wife Mrs Brinton making lampshades to order. She later moved this business to Christchurch Road.

In the 1960s there was a big change when estate agents Fox & Sons took over the whole building and put in a large new shop front as shown in the 1960s photo above. By 1970 Fox & Sons had moved to the Market Place and for a short time the building became the 'Snackette' bar and later the Orange Tree restaurant and Cafe Renoir.

The 21st century brought further changes of shop front when 12-14 High Street became today's betting shop, Belfred.