

ROUNDAABOUT
RINGWOOD & FORDINGBRIDGE

NOW and THEN

Ringwood High Street looking towards the Market Place



This photo, probably taken about sixty years ago, shows Ringwood High Street looking still quite recognisable today. The amount and style of the traffic is probably the main difference!

On the extreme right of the old photograph is Chilvers ironmongers, then a popular family-run business. In the intervening years the ground floor facade of this building has been changed several times, often not for the better. It is now Santander bank. Next door was Barnwell's fruit shop and florist, the only property to retain a thatched roof and original wooden-shuttered bow window into the 20th century. This building was de-

molished in the early 1980s and replaced by a replica, divided into four small shops, now Food for Thought, Roberts jewellery, Pret a Porter and one vacant.

On the left-hand side of the old photograph is E.E.Topp the butcher, occupying premises that had been a butchers since early Victorian days. It is now Wine Shak. Next door was Charters grocery and W. Pennell tobacconists, now Ringwood Fabrics and Kelly Eyecare. The long pole standing out between the shop signs denoted Alfie Reynolds barber's shop. Woolley & Wallis, Lloyds Bank and HSBC (then the Midland Bank) remain much the same today.

