

The CHALET , Church Street

This house was built in 1897 and first appears in Kelly's Directory of 1898-9. The first occupant was Frederick Shoobridge, who is listed as a 'market gardener'. He was using the land beside and behind the Chalet, which was owned originally by John Bridges, when he bought Church Hill Farm in 1688. By 1900, it was owned by Lady Isabel Brydges.

By 1906-7, Spencer Price was living there and continued to do so till 1916.

In 1920 James Cornford owned the Chalet and traded as a florist. He was still there in 1926, but in 1927 we find 'Waterman Brothers & Brant' listed under the house's name. They also traded as florists.

In 1929 only Leonard J. Waterman's name is listed for the property, with the floristry business using the ground adjoining the house and listed separately.

The most recent occupant of the Chalet was Bill Dawson a local Pharmacist for some time and Thanet Councillor for many years. He was a great supporter of Birchington's causes throughout his life.