



OLD KINSON

S. J. LANDS

Bournemouth Local Studies Publications

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BY

S. J. LANDS

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FOREWORD

This history began as an exercise for the Local Studies evening classes which I attend and it was with this in mind that I approached most of the people listed below. I would like to thank them for their help and interest, which has contributed towards the expansion of a paper into a booklet. I would also like to express my thanks to Mr. R. Sherwood for contributing the chapter on 'The Earliest Times' and to Mr. L. Carpenter for his illustrations in this section.

Mr. V. J. Adams	Dr. E. Mathews
Mrs. M. Arnold	Mr. T. Spratt
Mrs. A. E. Bates	Mr. R. Turner
Mrs. F. Creighton	Mr. E. Walden
Father Donovan	Miss L. Ward
Mr. N. Elliott	Miss R. White

Mr. J. A. Young

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Devon Village Schools, Sellman.
Ancient Bridges of Southern England, Jervoise.
Talbot Parish Commemorative Booklet.
Dorset Notes and Queries.
Discovering Prehistoric Bournemouth and Christchurch, J. B. Calkin.
Early Man in Bournemouth, M. Ridley.

Section 1

THE EARLIEST TIMES

The area of land known as the Tithing of Kinson has been inhabited by man for hundreds of thousands of years. Since the main concern of this record is the last thousand years or so, it is as well to begin with a survey of the earliest, prehistoric, times as a reminder that our roots go so much deeper into the past than we are normally aware of.

We are, indeed, fortunate that in the Kinson area the evidence of these roots is both ample and unmistakable. The richness and variety of archaeological discoveries has presented us with an almost unbroken picture of man's journey from the edge of obscurity to the complexities of 20th-century civilisation.

For traces of earliest man we must turn to the 100-foot gravel terraces which form, with their indented valleys, the major part of the geology of the region. The terraces cover, in fact, all except the valley of the River Stour in the north. They formed the hunting grounds of Palaeolithic man from about 400,000 B.C. to 10,000 B.C. At that time the powerful River Solent lay to the south, and beyond that the chalk ridge stretched unbroken from Purbeck to the Isle of Wight. It is interesting to note that whereas the Bournemouth region has yielded more than 3,000 hand-axes and other flint tools of the Old Stone Age, none has been found in the whole of Purbeck, except one on the Swanage shore which owes its origin to gravel brought from Bournemouth.

A number of these hand-axes have been found in the Talbot Woods, East and West Howe and Kinson areas. Some recent discoveries are illustrated on page 5. Palaeolithic man was essentially a hunter of the larger mammals. The finding of mammoth teeth at Little Canford, a few miles outside our area, are a reminder of this. Thus, for the best part of half-a-million years, Palaeolithic man roamed freely over the Kinson area, and considered it favourable.

The last Ice Age was responsible for the eclipse of our larger mammals, and at its close, from 12,000 to 10,000 B.C., man was adjusting to the hunting of smaller mammals, to fishing and to wild-fowling.

Early in 1970, a site unique in Bournemouth was discovered on Turbary Common. It belonged to the Mesolithic, or Middle Stone Age, hunting and fishing communities which existed in Britain from 8,000 to 3,000 B.C. This site was probably a hunters' base camp, and it has yielded a wide range of flint artifacts. The camp would have been of a temporary nature only, and the flint tools reflect the gearing of the Mesolithic economy to the hunting of smaller mammals and birds and to fishing.

The Turbary camp probably dates to 4,000+ B.C., and could well have belonged to the nomadic Maglemosian folk who infiltrated from north-west Europe and had spread into Southern Wessex by this time, via south-east England.

Evidences of the first farmers of the New Stone Age are to be found along the Stour Valley on both sides of the river. Here, in the fertile alluvium, Neolithic man would have grown his crops, mainly wheat, and herded his animals. A number of ground and polished Neolithic axe-heads have been found in or near Kinson (see page 6). These would have been used in tree-felling operations to clear wooded areas for farming purposes. Their agriculture was not permanent enough to have left identifiable traces of field systems.

Just over the northern edge of our area, at Longham, the skull of a Neolithic man over 5,000 years old was unearthed in 1932. The erosion of the banks of the River Stour has revealed numerous Neolithic flint artifacts between Longham and Dudsbury. Several leaf-shaped arrowheads have also been found in the Kinson area, firm proof of the activities of Neolithic groups. Late in 1971, ploughing on West Howe Common revealed a mass of flint artifacts, including some good specimens of transverse arrowheads (see fig. 1, page 6. These implements have a strong affinity with the Mesolithic, and represent the transition from Mesolithic to Neolithic cultures.

An ancient trackway existed between Christchurch (Hengistbury) and Kinson, which continued along the Stour Valley to Cranborne Chase and Salisbury Plain, the well-favoured, easy-to-till, chalk downland regions widely settled by Neolithic communities.

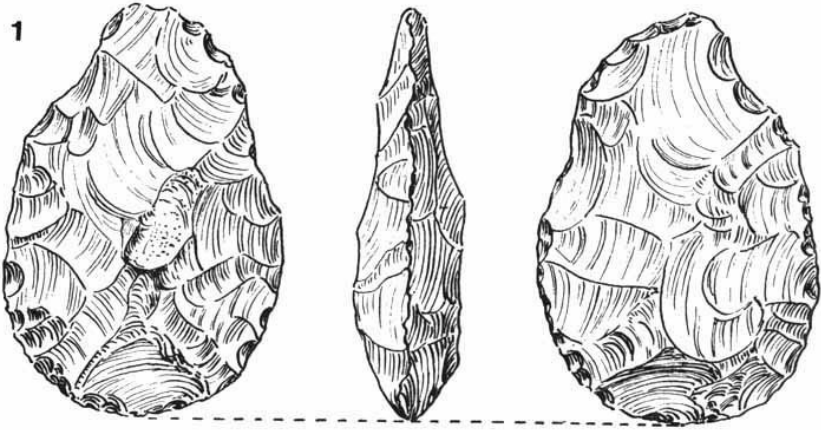
About 1,800 B.C. an energetic race crossed into Wessex from north-west France, known as the Beaker folk from the kind of pottery they produced. A number of these beakers have been unearthed from Talbot Woods and Kinson. The Beaker folk form a link with the succeeding Bronze Age cultures. They practised shifting agriculture, and grew mainly barley.

It seems likely that the Bronze Age people (1,500 B.C. to 600 B.C.), although mainly farmers, were in the Kinson area chiefly concerned with hunting. Their flint implements, including barbed and tanged arrowheads, are to be found scattered quite liberally over the heathlands and on developed areas which used to be heaths.

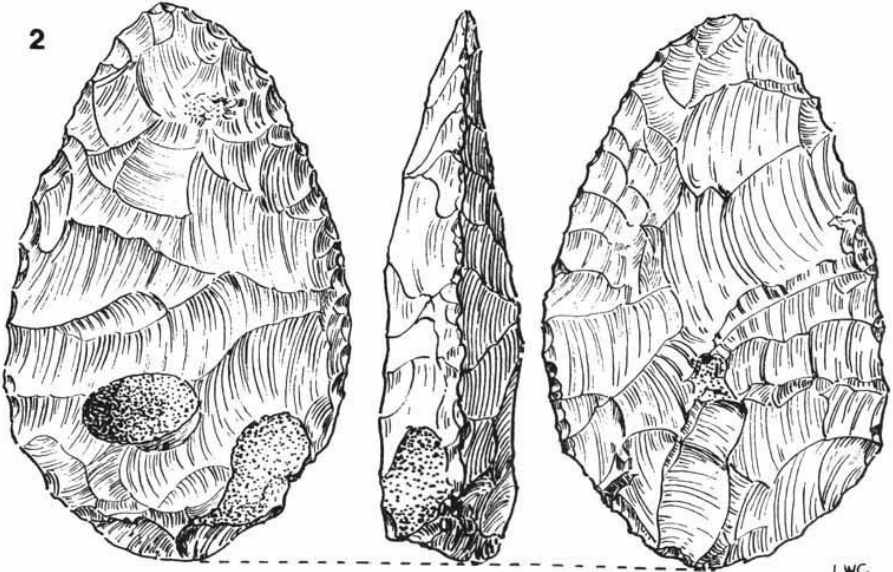
Key to Illustrations on Page 5

- 1. Acheulian Ovate Hand-axe, East Howe.*
- 2. Mid-Acheulian Pointed Hand-axe, East Howe.*

1



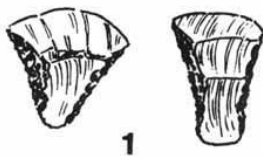
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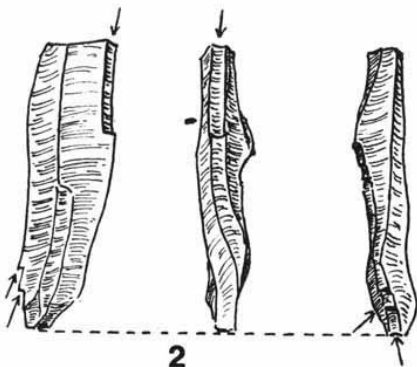
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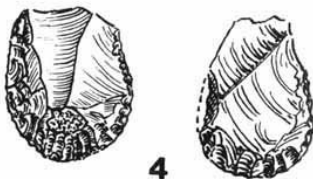
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They cremated their dead, and buried the remains in pottery urns in the ground, heaping a substantial mound, called a barrow, over them. Groups of these round barrows, or tumuli, existed on West Howe Common, in the Talbot Woods area, and between Kinson Road and Daw's Avenue, on the ridge, while in several other places isolated barrows existed. Some of these can still be traced. A large, decorated collared urn dating from 1,300 B.C. was discovered at Redhill.

The Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury folk arrived in about 1,200 B.C., and their characteristic pottery urns have been found in a cremation cemetery at Kinson, in a barrow at East Howe and in a burial at Talbot Woods. A bronze sword-point has been found at Ensbury Park, and a bronze palstave (axe-head) at Talbot Woods.

In the succeeding Iron Age, from 600 B.C., Ensbury Park, Redhill Common (Headswell Crescent) and Kinson (Duke's Coppice, Russel Road and Weyman's Avenue) furnish us with evidence of settlement. Hengistbury was a busy port of major importance at this time, from which Iron Age settlers spread along the Stour Valley, creating numerous hill-forts as defensive bases for settled mixed-farming communities. Dudsbury hill-fort looks across at Kinson from the north side of the river. The Iron Age peoples, although in quarrelsome clans, formed a tribal unit in Wessex known as the Durotriges.

The find at Ensbury Park was of a hutted site of about 250 B.C., with remains of burnt daub from the hut walls bearing impressions of wattle and finger prints, clay loom weights and Iron Age pottery. The hut would have been round in shape, with a thatched roof and a central hearth.

The Romans have left no mark of any sojourn in the Kinson area. If we move beyond our region to the south, we find that they built a port at Hamworthy, connected by road to Corfe Mullen and Badbury, and thence to Dorchester, Bath, Cranborne Chase and Salisbury - routes which in many places we may still follow today. An interesting find in a ball of clay in a garden in Pearl Road, East Howe, in 1958, was that of a thick and beautifully preserved bronze coin of King Soter Megas of Bactria, dated to A.D. 100, the early part of the Roman occupation.

Thus it was left to the Anglo-Saxons to probe finally the course of the Stour, and create a village which began as Cynestan's tun and is today Kinson.

Key to Illustrations on Page 6

1. *Transverse Arrowhead, and Petit Tranchet, West Howe.*
2. *Graver, for working on bone, West Howe.*
3. *Heavy Flake, roughly blunted, West Howe.*
4. *"Thumb" or "Button" Scrapers, West Howe.*
5. *Three Small Scrapers (L. to R. Talbot Woods, Kinson Road, Leybourne Avenue)*
6. *Notched Mesolithic Blade, Dudsbury.*
7. *Core Scraper, Talbot Woods.*

Section 2

HISTORY

Kinson today is centred around the shops straddling the main road between Wimborne and Bournemouth to the north of the town. The latter has now absorbed the village whose existence goes back to before Saxon times and whose name dates from then. There is nothing spectacular in the story of Kinson and therefore there are few records or references to draw on. The following sets out its gradual growth and development over the years.

The name of Kinson originated in Anglo-Saxon times when it was CYNESTAN'S (proper name) TUN (originally twig, then fence, then farm). This piece of fertile land bordering the river and backed by a rise on which to erect dwellings and build a church was a good site for settlement. It was recorded in the Domesday Survey, 1086, as CHINESTANESTONE. From this time onward the name underwent many changes, including KYNESTANTON (1231), KENSTANESTON (1326), KINSTANTON (1407), KYNSTON (1662), KINGSTON HOW (1771) and to Kingston by 1800. The tithing of Kinson together with what are known as Hamworthy, Parkstone, Longfleet and Poole was held as part of the manor of CHENEFORD (Canford).

In Edward the Confessor's time Kinson was held by Ulwen, a Saxon thane who probably lost his life at Hastings. After the Norman conquest it was held, with Canford, for the King by Edward de Sarisberie and is described in Domesday thus:

'There is land for 9 plough teams. Of this there are in the lord's demesne 5 hides and 1 virgate of land and therein 2 plough teams and 7 slaves and 18 villeins and 14 cotsets and 4 cotters with 7 plough teams. Therein also a mill bringing in 5 shillings and 1 acre of woodland and 95 acres of meadow. Pasture 3 leagues long and 1¾ wide.'

The number of *ploughs* indicated the wealth of the village. The lord's demesne was the land used to supply his household requirements and a hide was the amount of land that it was assessed a family could cultivate. This varied from between 80 and 120 acres according to the quality of the land. Slaves with their families lived within the domestic quarters of the manor and were the complete servants of the lord. *Villeins* owned about 30 acres and a small number of cattle. *Cotsets* owned 5 acres and a cottage. Everyone with corn to be ground had to pay the manorial mill for this service. Woods were needed for timber and pannage (feeding of pigs). Meadowland was good quality grassland (here was the best in the valley) and pastureland was rough grazing. Edward de Sarisberie was Sheriff of Wiltshire and a great landowner. Canford would have been held in the

charge of a steward. Most English counties were divided for the purpose of local government into Hundreds. These were measures of land of varying size which were in turn divided into tithings. Kinson was a tithing within the Cogdean Hundred along with Canford Magna, Longfleet, Parkstone, Charlton Marshall, Lytchett Matravers, Sturminster Marshall, Hamworthy, Corfe Mullen, Almer and Lytchett Minster. Each Hundred had its own court and sent representatives to the larger Shire Courts. A manor was the area of land covered by the demesne of the lord of the manor and lands from which he could also extract fees. It could include several tithings of the hundred or hundreds in which it was situated. In the late 15th century the manor consisted of the tithings of Canford, Kinson (which included Parkstone) and Longfleet. Poole was anciently part of the tithing of Longfleet although the charter of 1248 gave it its own courts. A manor had its own courts to deal mainly with civil affairs concerning the manor. More important or general cases went before the Hundred or Shire Courts.

Poole, therefore, was part of the manor of Canford whereas now the situation is reversed. For centuries the fate of Kinson was linked with that of Canford and Poole, charters granted to them affecting the village. It is interesting to note that Canford encouraged the settlement of merchants, seamen and craftsmen at Poole to increase revenues to the estate in the 11th and 12th centuries. A charter granted to Poole in 1586 finally separated the manor from Poole - the lord receiving compensation in lieu of the money lost.

Manorial Courts In the 15th century each tithing had a titheman whose purpose it was to collect the tithes. These dues were head-money paid annually by tenants for the certain-keeping of the court by the lord. Canford paid 6s. 8d., Kinson 7s. 0d. and Longfleet 1s. 3d. It appears that the unpopular post of titheman was given as a form of punishment for offenders brought before the Manorial Court. At one of these courts in 1472 William Theedale, titheman, had collected 7s. 0d. 'cert rent' from the tenants. His misdemeanour was that he had 'cut down diverse oaks and ashes upon his tenement at Kinson and made waste thereof without licence and cut down diverse oaks and ashes and hazel upon the close of the pasture called CODENYLL (Cudnell) and sold them outside the lordship without licence to the grave damage of the lord'. At the same court Kinson was fined sixpence for not showing the table of their tithing. Another case concerned Richard King of ENESBURGH (Ensbury). A pig worth 2s. 0d. had been found straying and had been impounded and King 'broke bailiffs arrest' and 'delivered the pig beyond this lordship and franchise in contempt of the lord'. King 'put himself in the lord's mercy' and was let off without a fine. (In later times a man or even a boy could be hanged for stealing less.)

Canford has been given or leased by the Crown to various persons, including William-de-Eureux, Earl of Sarum, father of the famed Lady Ela (Longspee), the Beauforts and a miscellany of those who had been

useful to the Crown. It was royal hunting land. In the mid 16th century Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, came into possession of many Dorset properties including the Manor of Canford. He had fallen into disgrace, but on submitting himself to the King's (Edward VI) mercy was given extensive lands.

James Blount, sixth Baron Mountjoy, who succeeded to the manor of Canford in 1557, developed the existing 'workings' at DERLYNGCLYFF (Durley Chine) on a commercial scale. Copperas, a kind of iron, was mined and alum, used in medicine and as a fertilizer, was boiled at his 'factories' at Parkstone. Neither this enterprise nor other later ones profited, but doubtless provided employment for the local men while they lasted.

The 1641 Muster List of those men required for military service gives 77 names. The following are those names which occur over the years until the present day . . . Lockier, Weyman, Barnes and Corbyn. There were five abstainers, probably Catholics. It has been suggested that a rough census can be calculated by multiplying the men on the Muster List by two (for women) and then by ten over six (for children). This gives an estimated population of 257.

The Rolls for the Hearth Tax of 1662-4 tell us that Kinson had 96 dwellings and 86 on the previous assessment, probably ten years before. John Weaver's house (mentioned later) was taxed for two hearths. By the next Tax Rolls the exemption rules had been reformed, giving only 65 taxable hearths with 38 exemptions, making 103 in all. The tax, 2s. 0d. annually, was levied on each hearth in the dwelling of every ratepayer worth 20s. 0d. or more yearly; therefore, only the better houses were counted.

Today's major roads follow, in the main, some of the medieval tracks which crossed the heaths from Poole to Longham, to Kinson and to Christchurch. In the mid 18th century the Poole Trust (turnpike), using these older tracks, laid out roads from Poole running north-east towards Ringwood and east to Christchurch. The former ran via Shute Hill or the Shute (Constitution Hill) and the Ringwood Road of today to cross the Stour at Longham. Before this more direct route to Longham via Bear Cross it had been necessary to veer to the right down Poole Lane, pass through Kinson and along Millhams to reach the bridge at Longham. For Christchurch the road still forked to the right down Poole Lane to Kinson, Ensbury and beyond. A secondary road branched off the turnpike north of Shute Hill and led across the heath to Wallis Down, crossed the County Boundary and proceeded north-eastwards to Holdenhurst. The remaining tracks criss-crossed the area providing links to such places as the ferry at Redhill, East Howe, Ensbury and Knighton.

The Christchurch branch of the turnpike out of Poole, called the Christchurch Road, ran across Poole Heath and passed through the fishing

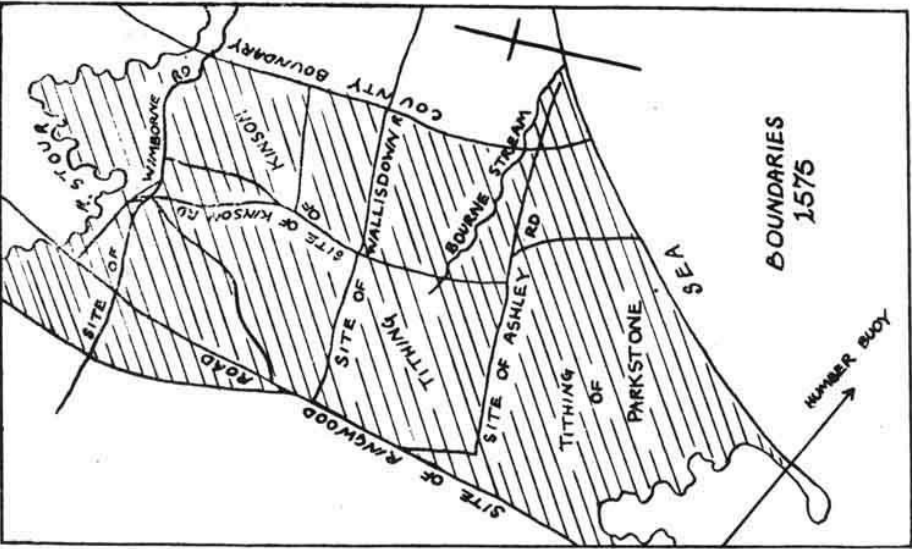
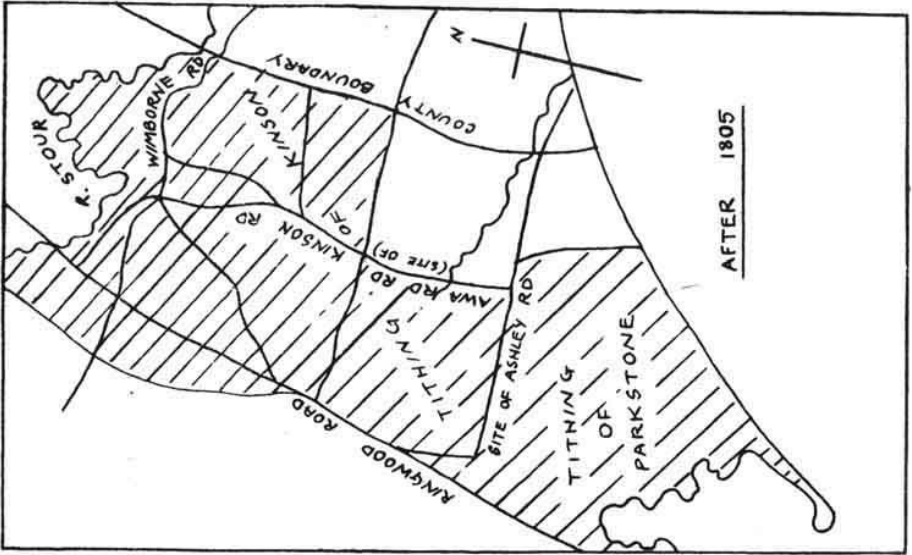
hamlet at Bourn(e) mouth. This road was later to become the Old Christchurch Road when another Christchurch Road (now the Bournemouth Road) was built to the south of it. By the last quarter of the century the Old Christchurch Road had become Ashley Road, Parkstone.

The road which crossed the Poole to Longham turnpike at Bear Cross was the main road linking Merley, Ensbury, Iford and Christchurch (now Magna Road, the east-west portion of Wimborne Road and Castle Lane). The 'New Road' with its bridge over the Stour at Ensbury was not built until well into the 20th century. Note that the roads, even the main ones, were little more than gravel tracks, many of them overhung with trees, and this is how many of them remained for most of the time covered in this booklet. The cottages of this time were nearly always cob-walled with thatched roofs and many of them remained until comparatively recently. At their destruction details of the two-to three-foot thick walls, reed panels, horse-hair bound plaster and old beams could be seen.

In 1801, 96 houses inhabited by 497 people are on record with a further five houses standing empty. The main source of employment was agriculture but others were employed at the brickworks and perfume factories, although that is perhaps a grand word for modest concerns. Poole was spreading beyond its town walls, and brickworks using local materials, and perfume factories using local heather and gorse, were started at Parkstone and Newtown for the growing population of this town rather than Kinson. However, until 1835, Kinson tithing included the hamlet of Parkstone, taking its boundaries out to Poole Harbour, and many of those living on this side of the parish would have worked locally. The extraction of salt from the harbour water at the Salterns, Parkstone, was another profitable enterprise over the centuries.

The extent of Kinson's Civil and Ecclesiastic jurisdiction (through the Manor of Canford) had remained constant over the centuries. That is, from the Stour in the north to the coast in the south, from the County Boundary east (Deryngclyff and even to the Bourne in 1575) to meet Longfleet and Canford Heath in the west. The 19th century was to see the start of the diminishing of these boundaries which was to continue into the 20th century. Civil and Ecclesiastic boundaries followed roughly the same lines but at differing times; the Civil are listed below, the Ecclesiastic later.

1805+ Loss of the Branksome Park portion (the long piece of land from the coast northwards to the present Talbot Woods and bounded in the west by Award Road) at the time of the Canford Enclosure and Christchurch Enclosure Acts of 1805 and 1802 which divided and allotted Poole Heath. The land went to the Bruce Estate and was subsequently divided into smaller parcels. George Gervis and William Driver bought the portion which the Misses Talbot were to purchase in 1835 to become



part of the Talbot Estate. (In 1846 Miss Georgina Talbot bought Quomp Corner, an area of 44 acres allotted to Isaac Gulliver under the 1822 Awards and part of Kinson parish, to add to her Estate.) The County Boundary was moved, between 1811 and 1818, from Durley Chine to Branksome.

1835 Loss of Parkstone, in the south-west corner, which was included with Poole under the Borough and County of the Town of Poole Extensions. The western bounds of Parkstone have been in doubt but the salterns were part of the tithing. Sir John Webb, in 1740, was able to re-possess them from Poole as part of the Manor of Canford.

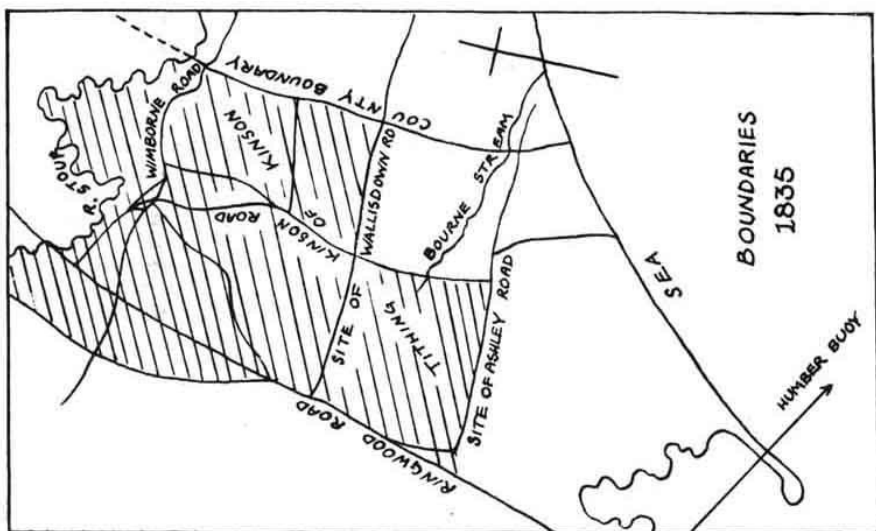
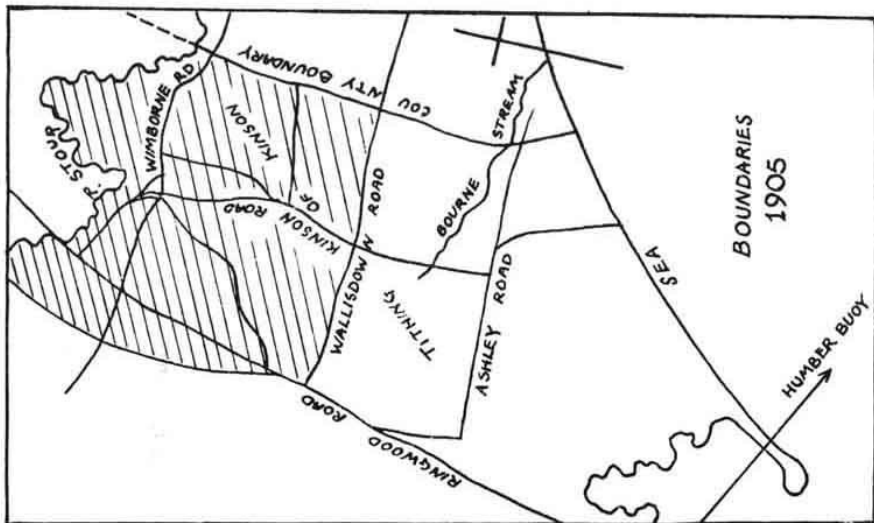
1851 finds the boundaries quoted in the Enumerator's Returns thus: (circumscribed in an anti-clockwise direction) Bear Cross, West Howe, Alderney, Constitution Hill, Bourne Bottom, East Howe, Columbia Lane, Redhill, Kinson and Cudnell.

1905 Branksome (not Branksome Park), an independent civil parish since 1895, was included within Poole's boundaries reducing the southern limits of Kinson to the Wallisdown Road of today.

1931 The remainder of Kinson and the Dorset portion of the Talbot Estate incorporated with Bournemouth, Hampshire. The County Boundary, which followed the old north-south drove for centuries, deviated to include this area under Hampshire.

Returning now to Kinson of the early 1800s. In 1805 areas of common land were laid aside to be used by the populace in lieu of the right to cut turf and graze animals on any waste land as before. We have Turbary Common to this day. The Commissioners also allotted land (over two acres and under five acres) to each cottage on a long inhabited site or to cottages over two hundred years old. Tithes were revised under this Act or the Tithe Act of 1836 and made payable in cash rather than kind. Details concerning the enclosure of the common lands of Great Canford were affixed to the door of Kinson church (then a chapel-of-ease for the eastern division of Great Canford). George Tito Brice was the vicar at this time, receiving his one-third of the tithes with the remaining two-thirds to John Willett of Merley House. The Willetts are commemorated by the Willett Arms to the west of the parish of Kinson.

The Enumerator's Returns for 1851 tell us that the population was 907 with 200 dwellings. The main source of employment for men in the northern half of the parish was agriculture; there were about a dozen farms of any size. Quite a few were domestic servants with two or three each of carpenters, wheelwrights, shoemakers and tailors, with two errand boys. There were also a schoolmaster, shepherd, maltster, butcher, thatcher,



cabinet maker, tanner and grocer. Domestic service provided most employment for women but they also included a schoolmistress, lacemaker, grocer and baker, nurse, ropemaker, dressmaker and errand girl. There were many paupers, male and female, registered.

The pattern was different in the south of the parish where, although quite a few men were employed in agriculture, an almost equal number were bricklayers and there were several gardeners, this part of the parish being nearer the expanding urban areas of Parkstone and the present Branksome Park. There were only two farms here and one each of baker, boot and shoemaker, innkeeper, shipwright, cordwinder and canvas weaver. The last three remind us of the proximity of Poole Harbour. Many paupers were here also, but, as in the north of the parish, living 'at home' not in a poorhouse.

Here an arm of the Bourne Stream was called the Kinson Brook. Water from this was used to supply Bournemouth through the new Bourne Valley Waterworks in 1864.

The Canford Estate boundaries were wide but had been wider; the estate did not, of course, own all the land therein but did receive annual payment of Chief Rent from certain lands - as from the 11th century at least. A private road led from Canford Manor across the heath, bridging two public roads, to meet the present Wallisdown Road west of Highmoor with an imposing set of wrought iron gates and gatehouse. The Guests, owners since 1846, had prospered from iron-founding in Wales.

It is possible to follow the pattern of land ownership in Kinson with the following 'short' list:

Early 19th century. Isaac Gulliver, Lord de Mauley (Canford Estate), Ralph Bankes (Estate. Dorset), I. Hiley Austin (Ensbury House).

End of 19th century. Anne Castleman (descendant of Gulliver), William Rolles Fryer (heir to Gulliver), John William Bankes (above), Sir Ivor Guest (Lord Wimborne), Trustees of Sir John Webb (ex Canford), Elliotts (farmers) and John Way (landholder of Kinson).

Beginning of 20th century. Lord Wimborne (above), Trustees of Bankes Estate (above), Major Lawrence Parkes (Ensbury House) and E. A. Elliott (above).

Needless to say the principal tenants were farmers, the constant family names being Elliott, Abbott, Atkins, Cutler, Head, Talbot and Wareham.

The tithes lists abound in picturesque field and place names such as Lower Ground, Breakheart, Larkslay, Great Quomps, Broomy Close, Little Hencocks, Somer Hays, Cowleys, Nine Corners, Great Close, Pick Purse and Scull Pit.

Divisions. 1865 Kinson was divided in several ways. It was part of the Cogdean Hundred. It came under the Poole (Poor Law) Union and the Poole County Council District. It was, in the Wimborne Petty Sessional division.

When in 1895 the Civil Parish of Kinson with 400 electors and a Parish Council of 11, was formed out of the older parish of Great Canford it was still under the Poole County Council. The postal address then became Kinson, Bournemouth.

The Kinson Parish Council of 1918 was comprised of Albert Cull of Talbot Village (Chairman) with eleven Councillors, including Alfred White of Kinson, Arthur Barnes of Ensbury Park and others from Wallisdown and East Howe. The events of the following years do not come within the bounds of this booklet but are briefly as follows:

In 1930 it was decided to amalgamate Kinson with Bournemouth. There was opposition chiefly from the Kinson Fighting Fund, but to no avail, so that under the Bournemouth Corporation Act Kinson was parted from the Rural District of Poole and included within the County Borough of Bournemouth. On 8th April, 1931, the Bournemouth Borough Boundary was extended north to the River Stour, to just beyond Bear Cross and to include the area between West Howe, Wallisdown Road, Talbot Village, East Howe, Ensbury and Kinson. This area had been part of the Rural District of Poole which opposed the incorporation. It was now considered to be in Hampshire, except ecclesiastically, when it came under the Diocese of Sarum and the Deanery of Poole.

There had been little development of Kinson before 1931, indeed there had been no main drainage or street lighting until well into the 1920s. After then much money was spent, not without protest from many rate-payers, on making up roads, providing further main drainage and lighting. The various ponds and marshes which abounded at the foot of the heath where the land levelled out were filled in.

In 1931 the Bournemouth electoral system was re-organised and the new ward of Kinson was created. Later, in 1962, this ward was divided into Kinson North and Kinson South.

Many houses and flats have been built since the war and Kinson has become a housing estate for a large proportion of the population of Bournemouth. There has been criticism of the mass layout of houses but in places great care has been taken to include natural features, notably East Howe Lane at the Old Thatch, and Leybourne Green. Many of the new roads were given the names of First and Second World War leaders, Montgomery, Tedder, Gort, etc. Others took their names from buildings,

some gone, some remaining, such as Hyde, Kitscroft and Durdells, or from locations such as Wicket and Oak Roads. Sir Mervyn Wheatley, distinguished soldier and diplomat, later in Local Government and Member of Parliament for East Dorset, born in Kinson parish in 1880, was commemorated at this time with Wheatley Road. Several old properties including Howe Lodge, Kinson House, Ensbury Manor and most farms have gone.

Over the last twenty years many shops have been added to the few that bordered the main road, and the presence of these coupled with the absence of the school and cottages make a very different picture. Only the Oddfellows Hall and ‘The Dolphin’ remain along this stretch. Old residents still refer to Kinson as ‘the village’.

The following census figures help to show Kinson’s growth:

1801	497
1811	517 with an approximate increase of 100 every 10 years until:
1851	907
1861	1,185
1871	1,187
1881	3,745
1891	3,650
1901	1,752 after boundary reductions
1911	2,752
1921	3,429
... 1961	26,807
1967	33,000

Section 3

LARGE HOUSES, FARMHOUSES COTTAGES AND OTHER BUILDINGS

In 1793, Pelhams was built by Mr. Tait, previously a tenant of Gulliver. The large, three-storied, well-proportioned Georgian house stood on the land belonging to Kinson Farm. It was purchased in 1795 by L. W. Broucher, owned, with Kinson Farm, by Gulliver and was by 1840 part of the Castleman Estate (his descendants). After the death of Gulliver’s daughter, Elizabeth Fryer (1839), his property was divided between his grandchildren and the house was detached from the farm and stood in its own ten acres of pasture. It was, by 1867, owned by the Rolles Fryers, a wealthy banking family; the Fryers were a Newfoundland merchant family

from Poole, the Kinson branch also descendants of Gulliver through his elder daughter. The Reverend Percy Newell lived at Pelhams for half a century until 1895 when the Reverend Arnold Mortimer Sharp bought the property; he had been living at Howe Lodge, not the vicarage at Ensbury. Arnold Sharp, Dean of Poole, 1929, Hon. Canon of Salisbury, 1934, was descended from Grenville Sharp the slave emancipationist. He died in 1938. With him lived his sister, Jessica, a strong supporter of the Girls' Friendly Society.

A description of the house at the beginning of this century is given by the man who started as a boy working for Mr. Sharp and ended as his chauffeur, one of four servants indoors and four outside.

The house had the older one-storey building still attached to its south side and a further two-storied service wing extended east at the back. There were further out-buildings, one acre of walled garden and a tennis court. The small semi-circular porch was glassed in and the smooth gravel drives were bordered with shrubs. The house was, and still is, set amid fine specimens of trees including a large ilex, a giant plane and a magnificent tulip tree. In due course the carriage as a means of conveyance was replaced by the smart Daimler. Pelhams had a well but they, in company with other cottagers in Millhams, collected water from the stream which ran down from the higher land to the south through the 'bunny', a fairly deep ditch which followed the line of Lake Road and Millhams to the river. This is now covered over but irregular stone slabs along the roadside mark the stream's edge. Until the last decade this stream was liable to flood, rendering the lane impassable.

The property remained in Mr. Sharp's possession until 1930 when he left the house and park to be sold to the Council at a moderate price on condition that it was to be used for the benefit of the people of Kinson and not built upon. The house was used as a Civil Defence Centre until the end of the Second World War, 1945. In 1948, with the buildings in bad condition, the decision had to be made to renovate or demolish.

To celebrate the end of the war a Victory Tea was given for the children of Kinson and the success of this project led to the strengthening of the Kinson Social Club and Institute. It was decided to repair Pelhams to house this club. The out-buildings and service wing were dismantled, the grounds cleared and laid out as grass, courts and a swing park. Reed and plaster panelling was disclosed in the east wing and a George III half penny was found embedded in the brickwork. A sample of the panelling, the coin and some hand-made nails are preserved and on show in the main building at Pelhams, which now has the name of Kinson Community Centre.



Ensbury Manor



Kinson Splash - Millhams Lane



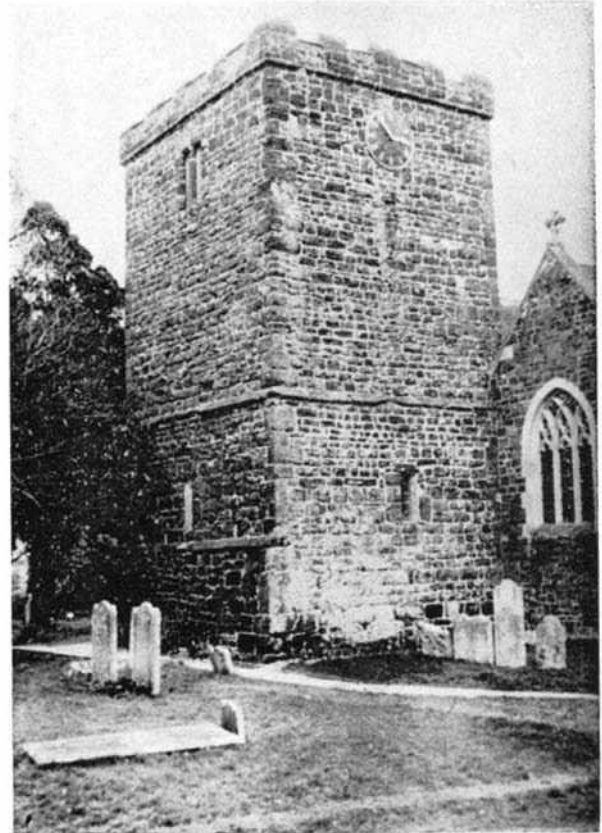
The original Kinson School before demolition



Howe Lodge



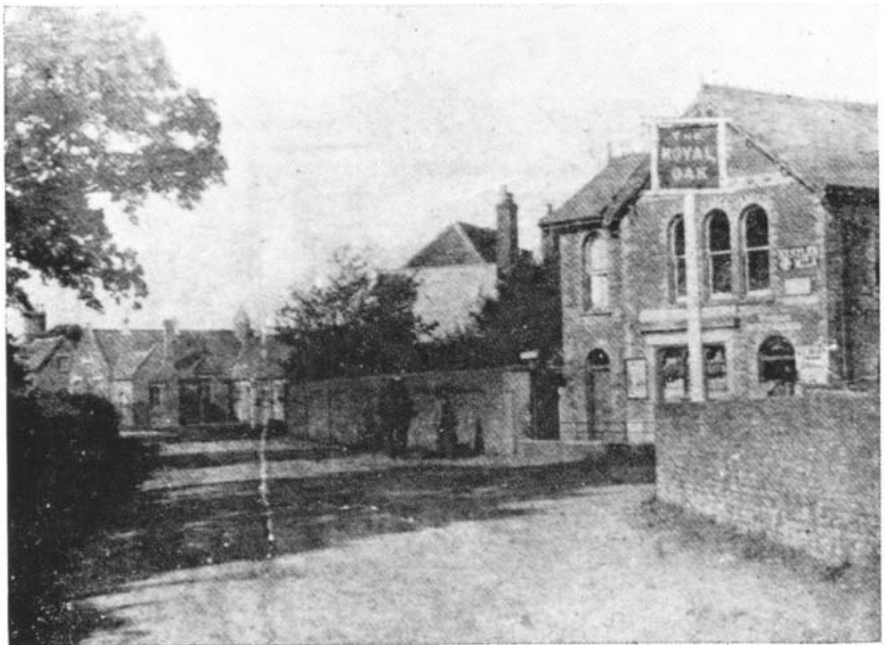
The original Kinson School



The Tower of St. Andrew's Church



Interior of Kinson Church



Assembly Rooms

Kinson Farm, later Manor Farm, was in 1840 described as ‘consisting of 140 acres with a good family house called Pelhams’. Pelhams was not the farmhouse, which is a long, low, mellow building of rose-coloured bricks and has a tiled roof. It is complete with the traditional kitchens, ovens and accoutrements to be expected. The original was thought to have been a hunting station for the Earls of Shaftesbury. The original indentures conveying the farm from Gulliver in trust for his grand-daughter, Mrs. Anne Castleman, exist with his signature and seal attached. The farm lands until development in 1938 extended to the adjoining Ensbury Manor lands (now New Road) at Ensbury, and have been farmed for the last century by the three local farmers, Atkins, Abbott and Arnold, and by the Elliotts before this. The farm had been divided into two as recently as 1867 when Joshua Wareham farmed roughly the eastern portion, 98 acres, with his farmhouse, barns, etc., adjoining the main road at Kinson. The barns, at least, survived to become part of the Manor Farm buildings and one of the cottages to house farm workers. Joshua Wareham leased much more farm land in the centre of Kinson at this date.

Brookside on the corner of Manor Farm and Millhams Lanes, and therefore beside the brook, is a red-brick house once the home of Miss Whittaker, benefactress to the church (Whittaker Trust). It has been the vicarage for St. Andrew’s since the 1930s, although it was probably used by the curate before then.

Returning to the main road and travelling west along its northern side, first came Kinson House (earlier Kinson Cottage). This was a large house with original parts at least old enough to have been linked with the tales of smugglers, but with more recent additions. It was for many years the home of Lt. Colonel and Mrs. Godfrey Russell, great uncle and aunt of Dame Sybil Thorndike, who remembers with enthusiasm the Russell family and holidays spent with them at Kinson House. She and her brother, Russell, rode over the heaths. Did the local stories of smugglers inspire Russell Thorndike’s books about the clergyman smuggler, Doctor Syn? The house became the possession of the Exton family (Bournemouth hotel owners) and later the Willis (well-known local builders’ merchant) family. When they left the house it was requisitioned by the Bournemouth Corporation and was, from 1940, used to house boys evacuated from Southampton. It has been demolished and replaced by blocks of flats; only some large trees remain to mark its grounds. Its neighbour, Holt Lodge, was the home of Charles Bennett, champion long-distance runner and one-time licensee of ‘The Dolphin’.

Breton House, standing amid trees on the corner of Millhams, was to become part of the village stores.

The school, the Liberal Club, housed in part of three adjoining cottages, a shop and a thatched cottage lined the road towards Bear Cross,

with two thatched cottages and the red-brick school house set back down Pound Lane and the Police house (still standing) down Lake Road, then called Blackman's Lane. Jesse Short lived at *Bay House* further west. His was a small farm with cattle in the field behind. Along here was the Blacksmith's; Philip Welch (also the Postal Receiver) was the 'smith in 1840, with Edmund Arnold by 1859 and his son, Tom, by 1903.

Towards Bear Cross, still on the north side of the main road, came *Cudnell Farm*, farmed from 1816 to 1956 by members of the Elliott family. They farmed not only here but elsewhere in the neighbourhood and later entered the pottery business. The red-brick Cudnell farmhouse built by M. E. Elliott and occupied by a member of the family until 1917 was set in a lovely garden with views across the meadows to Longham. The farm lands extended to Millhams Lane and are now either built upon or remain open land. The first local bomb fell in Broomy Ground (field name) killing two cows. The farmhouse, with the very old barns and out-buildings which pre-dated the house, was pulled down in 1958. This farm brought us to Bear Cross, and returning east now along the south side of the main road came the other farm at Cudnell. The Abbotts farmed here over a large number of years on the land known as *Durdells*. The house, built of brick and of simple design, was long and low, with a bakehouse at the side and a large three-bay barn before it. It was demolished in 1970. An old map shows Mary Durdell's meadow between here and Longham; perhaps she was the original owner of the farm. Between Durdells and Kinson came *Pitts Farm*. Its thatched farmhouse and buildings, once owned by Gulliver, stood alongside the main road, and its lands extended west to the present Durdells Avenue and ran south to meet Poole Lane. One of the fields was called Scull Pit. In 1927 Palaeolithic implements were found in the area - was a skull unearthed at an earlier date? Pitts was farmed in 1840 by Mary Rodwell, in mid-century by Thomas Witheridge who also ran a butcher's shop from the farm and at the end of the century by Uriah Cole. It was demolished around 1932.

This brings us back to the village and to Oxford Lane. This formed one side of a close of cottages, Oxford Square. The ten cottages enclosed their own gardens and the water for this little community drained from the field behind them into a tank. There was, as elsewhere, no gas, electricity or sanitation other than earth closets and this remained so for the many places like Oxford Close until 1931. Further cottages straggled along the main road towards Ensbury. They had thick cob walls and were partitioned inside by plastered slats, or even rough-trimmed branches, which were revealed when the cottages were pulled down. Travelling eastward along the main road towards Ensbury past the cricket field the next house, a new one, was *Eglington*, built for Samuel Montgomery, a Bournemouth doctor, who also kindly drew teeth without anaesthetic. His successor, Dr. Lamb, lived there for a while before moving to Elmbrook next to St. Andrew's. After Dr. Lamb appropriately came a retired sheep farmer from Wiltshire. He owned an Armstrong Siddeley whose speed he restricted to

15 miles per hour to the chagrin of his chauffeur, who stuck steadfastly to his humiliating post thinking of the £250 promised on the demise of his master. The farmer, however, lived to be ninety by which time the legacy had lost much of its appeal. Dukes Coppice, a small wood behind the house, belonged to Eglington.

Headless Cross Lane (to become East Howe Lane in the 1920s) met the main road at the T-junction called Headless Cross. Here on the corner was a blacksmith and coal merchant's and one cottage. The land opposite became a nursery, being planted with fruit trees and having extensive glasshouses which remained until recently when the land was built upon.

Leaving the main road and travelling south down East Howe Lane there are, on the right, a group of cottages, two named *Hillside* and *Ashley Cottage*, with the two thatched *Primrose Cottages* on the left. Further along on the right is Thatched House, formerly '*The Shrubberies*', an attractive building set back from the road still with its Regency canopy and scalloped thatch. It is now an inn.

East Howe Lane is joined by Brook Road, then a lane, leading westward to a stream which drained down the valley between Kinson Road and Poole Lane and on through the village. There were two houses of note along here. *Howe Lodge* an elegant 18th-century house of simple design with fine windows. It is said that Isaac Gulliver lived here; perhaps he had it enlarged, adding the two wings and porch ornamented with crenellations. The house contained a concealed room reached though a door ten feet up inside a chimney. A trap door in the dining-room led to the basement from which a neatly bricked tunnel extended away from the house. A more recent tenant came upon the tunnel and was able to follow it, walking upright, for thirty to forty feet before coming to its bricked-up end. It is presumed that it extended further when in use, probably out to the heath to the south of the house. Thomas Stone, a Newfoundland merchant, lived here at the end of the 18th century. He, in common with many of the Poole merchants, brought back a native Indian from Newfoundland. The Indians did not survive for long, mostly contracting tuberculosis, and Oubee, the young girl brought back and adopted by the Stones in 1792, lived only until 1795. Her grave, if in the parish at all, has not been located. Howe Lodge has housed a variety of characters, from a professional gambler from Monte Carlo to the Reverend Sullen, and including troops of the Pioneer Corps during the Second World War when they were stationed on Brownsea. The property was eventually bought by the Bournemouth Corporation and demolished in the early 1950s to make way for road widening and a block of flats. Next door stood *Woodlands*. In 1897 the Elliotts, farmers and owners of the pottery at West Howe, moved from Cudnell Farm to live here. This house, parts of which dated back 370 years, was

built around the newer central block of similar style and design to Howe Lodge. Of the older portion thick cob walls, old windows and stabling remained. Woodlands was also associated with the smugglers and was, according to its occupants, haunted with a decided 'presence' being felt by those in the house. A skull was dug up in the grounds when they were being cleared for building. It was a woman's and had a marline spike embedded in it. Overseas soldiers, mostly from Australia, came here to convalesce during the 1914-18 War. The property and its adjoining land was sold by compulsory purchase in 1951 to the Boumemouth Corporation for their building schemes.

East Howe Farm on the high land of Green Lane overlooking the valley to its north remained until its land was built upon after the last war. Two cottages still standing at East Howe on the highland overlooking the valley to the south were marked as a farm on the map of the 1880s. Poole Lane was not the busy short cut of today. It rises over Berry Hill and at its south end was a community of thatched cottages. One, called *Moorside*, was at least 200 years old and the home of Mr. Wilcox for 60 years, and he remembers when it was surrounded by fields for as far as he could see. There are five more Canford Estate cottages which, with a pair in Manor Farm Lane and further pairs beyond Kinson Potteries, remind us of the jurisdiction of that Estate. One tenant tells us that when he was employed by Lord Wimborne he was allowed to live in one of these cottages for one shilling a week provided he kept a pig - an 'Estate' pig. West Howe Farm commanded the land at the top of Poole Lane. Its buildings and land suffered the same fate as East Howe Farm and at the same time.

There were small communities of four-square brick and tile cottages, their names a study of local flora, Rose, Honeysuckle, Myrtle, Ivy, Laurel, Rowan and Holm Bush Cottages, with Hope Cottage and Royal Cottage for good measure. These hamlets were at Columbia Lane, East and West Howe, Alderney, Foxlease (to become Newtown at the end of the last century) where the site of the Pound remains, and Constitution Hill.

Highmoor at the cross roads, now Wallisdown Cross, boasted a Post Office, Methodist Chapel, Laundry, County Police house and an inn, 'The King's Arms'. The latter was welcomed as the Misses Talbot would not allow such premises on their estate.

Two large properties, Kinson Lodge and Uppleby House, dominated the rise of land north of Ashley Road but at their feet, along the southern boundary, considerable urban building had taken place and the superior Kinson Park Villa was taking over from humble Home Cottage.

'Gypsy' encampments were features of the heaths and the community on Turbary Common was called 'New England'. Later, when Bournemouth took over, the heath squatters were turned off the heaths. Many were rehoused on the new estates being built. Augustus John, the artist, came in 1909 to live at Alderney Manor on the Parkstone side of the Ringwood Road. The extensive grounds abounded with the family's pet animals. John and his family were often mistaken for the gypsies with whom they liked to mingle. The Bohemian clothing, loose shirts, and bright neckerchiefs which they wore coupled with their associations with horses brought this about.

Section 4

GENERAL: VILLAGE SCHOOLS

1820 - 1903

Until 1820 the old Parish Schools provided the only education for the villager. This year onward saw the development of Voluntary Schools (mostly church) assisted by the National Society, established 1811 and mainly Anglican, or the British Society, established 1812 and Non Conformist, and subject to the Charity Commissioner's scrutiny. The two Societies gave building grants and, by 1845, supplied cheap textbooks. Some schools were supported entirely by Patrons, otherwise by subscription, Parish Rate, voluntary contributions, fee-paying pupils, endowments and the School Pence (small sums paid weekly by each child).

Early schools, particularly those church-endowed, taught only reading, with the comprehension of the Bible as their aim. Gradually the three R's became the standard curriculum with the addition of needlework for the girls; an achievement when, as often happened, there was one master only for all standards helped by his wife who taught the infants and took the needlework lesson.

A code of 1862 introduced a system of annual examinations by Her Majesty's Inspectors and grants were paid according to their reports on examinations and attendances. (Later, in the 1890s, when the Inspector's report no longer influenced the grants the visits became bi-annual, more informal and helpful.) Schools under the 'Code' were organised into Infants and six standards, and were required to keep Log Books.

The Education Act of 1870 introduced School Boards to assist where voluntary provisions were insufficient for the provision of adequate buildings or maintenance. Village Schools not under the 1862 Code were now included and all had to fulfil basic building and teaching requirements. The School Board had also to enforce the regular attendance of the pupils at any other school within its area.

These, mainly Denominational Schools, were otherwise supervised apart from the Board Schools under this Act. Head Teachers had now to be certificated (most staff prior to this were unqualified). Often they were paid a very low salary supplemented by 'payment by results' percentages and the School Pence which they had to collect; this was until the 1890s when grants no longer depended on results. The Schoolmaster, frequently also the Parish Clerk, often had to take another post to augment his salary.

Regular attendance was required by the Act of 1872 but records show that this was seldom attained. Attendance Officers were appointed by the School Boards but they had not, as a rule, the authority to compel regular or continual attendance. Irregular attendances were worse in rural areas where seasonal work could be found. Children between five and ten years of age were required to attend school full-time, the older ones half-time with certain exemptions. Teachers had often to accept children as young as three in order that children of school age from the family should not have to miss school to care for them.

The Education Department of the 1890s required Infants to be taught separately and also stipulated that eight square feet of floor space should be allowed for each pupil.

The schools were transferred to a Local Education Authority under a County Education Authority by an Act of 1902.

KINSON SCHOOL

On 26th January, 1836, the Canford Estate land, '30 perches bounded north and west by Estate land and south and east by public roads' on which the school at Kinson was to be built was held by a Deed which was an Indenture of Lease of 99 years at 2s. 6d. a year. The grantor of this lease was the Honourable William Francis Spencer Ponsonby (Lord de Mauley), Lord of the Manor of Canford, and Thomas Henry Graham. The trust was vested in the Reverend William Oldfield Bartlett, Clerk-Vicar of the parish of Kinson, John Way and William Footner, Chapelwardens of Kinson, and Edward Elliott and Pannel King, Overseers of the Poor of the parish and their successors. Buildings costing £600 were erected as a Church of England Charity School for the education of the children of the poorer classes of the Parish and District of Kinson. The children came from as far away as Kinson Heath and Ferndown. They paid twopence a week but the

school was supported chiefly by voluntary contributions. The school room was licensed for Divine Service and on three days a week religious instruction was given. Oak Cottage, a thatched cottage in Millhams Lane, was used by the schoolmaster. Before this school was built some classes were thought to have been held in the church. The tower contains an iron fireplace and there was an additional building adjoining the porch - perhaps evidence to support this.

The Kinson schoolchildren were given a 'pleasant entertainment' on 30th December, 1847. A flag was hoisted above the schoolhouse and 100 children gathered and proceeded to the church for a service. They then returned to the school, which was entered through a door decorated with a crown and the initials V. R. fashioned in holly and the word WELCOME spelt out in ivy. In the decorated schoolroom was a dinner of beef and plum pudding, the gift of the Honourable and Reverend Walter Ponsonby, rector. The local gentry, churchwardens and teachers attended the jollifications. The meal closed with an address or a 'few but forceful words' from the rector, and the whole concluded with the National Anthem and three cheers.

Two years later, on Christmas Day, William Henry Fryer of Wimborne presented grey cloth cloaks to the 54 girls of Kinson Village School.

On 30th May, 1872, the Reverend Egerton Daniell, Vicar, Edwin B. Elliott and Robert Corbin King, Churchwardens, David Atkins and William White, Overseers of the Poor (being the administrators of the Charity School), applied to the Board of Charity Commissioners concerning a 'Scheme for the Regulation and Management of the School'. The above Trustees had, for a month before, affixed a notice informing the parish of their intentions to the outer door of the church. There had been no objections. By 28th August, 1872, a scheme had been drawn up, the salient points being:

- (i) Full description of site, buildings, etc., and details of Lease of 1836. The present and future buildings to be used solely as a 'School for the instruction of children and adults or children only, of the labouring and other poorer classes in the Parish of Kinson. . . .'
- (ii) The school to be conducted in accordance with provisions applied by the 7th Section of the Elementary Education Act of 1870. Funds to be used for no other disposition.
- (iii) The Principal Officiating Minister of the time to superintend the religious and moral instruction of the scholars and direct the use of the premises as a Sunday School.

- (iv) Other aspects of control and management of premises and funds, appointments and dismissal of staff to be exercised by a committee consisting of the Principal Officiating Minister, his Curate and seven other persons, landowners or residents. Each was to contribute 20s. 0d. (at least) every year to funds. The first non-official managers being:

George Godfrey Russell of Kinson House, Esquire
Henry Bury and Ledbetter Appleby, Esquires
Edwin B. Elliott, Farmer, Cudnell
Thomas Abbott, Farmer, Cudnell
Robert Corbin King, Farmer, Ensbury
John Payne of Canford Magna, Esquire

- (v) Replacement managers to pay not less than 10s. Od. to funds for the remains of that year.
- (vi) The Committee to hold meetings at the School House in each of the months of January, April, July and October.
- (vii)-(xi) Dealt with the procedure of the Committee.
- (xii) Specified that one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools should be called in to arbitrate if necessary.
- (xiii) Concerned the dismissal of masters and mistresses.
- (xiv) A committee of four ladies may be appointed each May to assist in the management of the Girls' and Infants' School.

To qualify under the Education Act of 1870 and according to the scheme, the Freehold of the school was granted by Deed of Conveyance between Sir Ivor Bertie Guest (Lord of the Manor of Canford) and the Reverend Egerton Daniell, Vicar, Robert Corbin King and Edwin B. Elliott, Churchwardens. This took place on 12th March, 1874, when 'the land, buildings and other hereditaments were vested in and held in trust by the above vicar and wardens and their successors'. The said premises to be used in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme of 1872 until the termination of the Lease. The grantees were also discharged from payment of rent due under the previous arrangement.

The increase in the number of pupils, probably due to compulsory education, led to the enlarging of the school in 1874. The committee of seven was transformed to a School Board under the provisions of the 1870 Education Act. Mr. W. M. Dibben was Clerk and David Long Attendance Officer. The administration of the school being transferred to the Board thus created Kinson one of the only two Board Schools in the

area of the Bournemouth of today. A list exists giving the six requirements of the School Board concerning the Religious instruction to be given

School Accounts for 1878-9:

<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
Government Grant 44 11 0	Master 50 0 0
School Pence 27 10 6	Assistant 30 0 0
Rent of (school house) 6 0 0	Monitors 7 16 0
From School Fund <u>31 13 6</u>	Rent 19 0 0
<u>£109 15 0</u>	Miscellaneous <u>2 19 0</u>
	<u>£109 15 0</u>

H.M. Inspector's Report: 'This school shows symptoms of incipient improvements in many respects though the work is still somewhat defective. The present mistress has only been recently appointed and, of course, has not had time to develop the capabilities of her scholars to any extent, but she promises well.' (Miss Mary Ann Southwick.)

Note that Grants depended on the Inspector's Report until 1890.

A schoolhouse costing £240 was erected by 1880 in Pound Lane. The school was enlarged again in 1890 to take 144 children, the thatched cottage next door being demolished to make room for the extensions.

The School Board was dissolved in September 1903, in accordance with the Education Act of 1902, and the control of the school passed to the newly-formed Dorset Education Authority.

Early School Details:

<i>Type</i>	<i>Numbers</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Head Teacher:</i>
Charity (Church of England) National	100 approx.	1840 (poss:1836 onward) 1851 1859	Samuel Garland Elisha Bartlett Samuel Garland Mrs. Elizabeth Garland
Board	104 144	1875 1890	Charles Southwick Charles Southwick Miss Mary Ann Southwick
Mixed	180	1895 1903	John Griffin Mrs. Griffin Mr. Thomas Bevan Minnie Bevan
Elementary	420	1928	Miss L. M. Ward

The school was enlarged in 1927 to take 420 children. The last headmistress in the old Kinson School was Miss Ward and it was during her term of office (1928-60) that the school was transferred.

In 1931 Kinson incorporated with Bournemouth and the school transferred to the Bournemouth Corporation. During the same year the increase in the number of Kinson's pupils necessitated their spreading into the nearby institute where, incidentally, the George V Jubilee was celebrated with a party in 1935. A larger school was required by this time and the new school of modern design was opened in 1936. It stands in School Lane almost opposite the site of the old building which was closed as a school in 1939. During the Second World War, in 1941, this new school was used to house 597 French soldiers who arrived in terrible condition from Dunkirk. At first there were no clothes, bedding for the sick or utensils for them, and only one gas ring, but in a few hours the Kinsonians collected clothing, etc., and all was well organised. This experience proved useful when later on 200 British soldiers evacuated from St. Valerie-en-eaux followed the French.

The lease on the land on which the original school had been built expired in 1935 and the land reverted to the Canford Estate and had subsequently to be purchased by the Bournemouth Corporation for £23,000. The Estate, however, gave to the church land near the new school on which they built their Youth Club.

Before its demolition the old school was used by the Sunday School and Boys' Brigade, and finally became the village library. When a new library was built (to be replaced in its turn in 1970) the old building was pulled down, in the late 1950s. There are now eleven schools, Infant, Junior and Secondary, to serve a smaller area than the original school of 1836.

An aside on the role of the headmistress at school

When Miss Ward first came to the school the children came from a widespread area and in bad weather many of the children arrived cold and wet. Her mother knitted socks, made soft shoes and collected clothing for such emergencies. Sick children were often sent to school, doctors' fees were hard to come by, and these children were cared for at school or arrangements were made to convey them home. All this was to be dealt with by the teacher who was more involved with the families of the children and knew of their circumstances, and did what she could to help. Many extra-mural excursions, often on Saturdays, were arranged when the children armed with pencils and pads would be taken to surrounding places of interest. In spite of inadequate premises the school was a happy one, alive and forward-looking.

KINSON HEATH SCHOOL - CROFT ROAD

The Victoria Dorset (1868-70) records a school in the south of the parish thus: 'A Church of England school has been built on Constitution Hill for the Benefit of the inhabitants of the district with a teacher's house attached. The schoolroom is licensed for Divine Service.

There is a similar school at Kinson. Both chiefly voluntarily supported. This must be the same school recorded in the Directory of 1865 as ‘. . . school in the parish at Constitution Hill, 1861. For boys and girls, night school in Winter and used for Divine Worship on Sundays. Mistress — Miss Mary Pretty.’

This probably refers to the earliest building of the Kinson Heath School, still incorporated in the complex, a schoolhouse with a large schoolroom 33ft. X 77ft. attached. An old resident says that a dame school for five children, each paying a penny a week was held here. Two further classrooms were added in 1874 to accommodate an additional 30 children making around 80 in all. The school was under the auspices of Kinson School with interchange of teachers in cases of ill-health. In 1880 it, like Kinson, became a Board School with additional accommodation added for the average of 135 children in 1882. In 1879 the following passage had appeared in the Kinson Parish Messenger: ‘A notice from the Education Department is now posted at the church doors, requiring this parish to provide school accommodation for 200 more children at Kinson Heath. The present school at Kinson Heath accommodating 104 children with a teacher’s house cost more than £600.’ Ratepayers and landowners were asked to bear in mind that the expense would be considerable. The Inspector, in 1881, had complained of lack of accommodation and stated that the next year’s grant might be withheld if this situation were not remedied.

School Account for 1878-9:

<i>Receipts</i>		<i>Expenditure</i>	
Grammar Grant	80 9 0	Mistress	60 0 0
School Pence	43 13 4	Assistant	55 12 0
From School Fund	13 12 1	Monitors	5 0 0
		Books, etc.	4 10 0
		Fuel	3 10 8
		Furniture and Cleaning	8 15 6
		Miscellaneous	6 3
	<u>£137 14 5</u>		<u>£137 14 5</u>

H.M. Inspector’s Report: ‘The work of this school is conducted on sound and uniform principles and has produced corresponding results. Situated on the outskirts of a wild and lonely tract, it has been of incalculable benefit as a civilising agency for the scattered and neglected juvenile population.’

This was an expanding area and further enlargement was needed in 1886 when two wings, one boys’ and one girls’, and a schoolhouse were added at the cost of £1,670 with the earlier buildings retained for the infants. The average attendance in 1891, however, was down to 99,

probably due to the advent of Heatherlands School to share the load. In 1891 Charles Long was caned 'for coming into the girls' porch and cutting off eight elastics off the girls' hats'. His father indignantly removed his son and daughter from the school, and fortunately there was now the alternative school. A further 20 to 30 children removed to Heatherlands, it now being the school nearest to them.

The Log Books from 1868 remain to give us a picture of school life. The girls and infants were taught by a mistress and assistant, with a master for the boys. There was a regular retinue of visitors, the vicar (religious services and reading lessons) members of the Board, worthy local ladies, H.M. Inspector and the Attendance Officer.

The Inspectors Report dealt with the general conduct of the children, Arithmetic and English; 73 per cent was considered a low pass so that the 45 per cent attained one year for Arithmetic was a catastrophe. He also set much store by the Singing and Attendance results, the latter seeming the pre-occupation of the Head Teacher. Wet weather kept very many children at home, so much so that the school was occasionally closed, and children returned home having been wet on arrival. Illness, mainly mumps and measles with an outbreak of scarletina, contributed. So did unofficial absences to Poole Fair, the visit of the Prince of Wales to Bournemouth, local fetes and the official ones to tea with members of the Board and their wives, tea with Miss Uppleby (of Uppleby House) and the Relief of Mafeking. It was often necessary for the girls to remain at home to help out. In 1880 the teachers had a half-day holiday to 'visit the Bazaar at Bournemouth'.

We can watch the progress of Florence Burridge who started in 1886 with the girls as a Pupil Teacher, during her first, second, third and fourth year until her final examinations in 1891. Her lessons bore such titles as 'The Pronoun', 'The Vulgar Fraction', 'Lighting a fire', 'Oyster' and a large selection of songs taught each term with such titles as 'Gay and Happy', 'A Kiss for a Blow' and 'Three Cheers for the Red, White and Blue'. Musical drill was accompanied on the harmonium. When she left the school in 1895 her replacement was advertised for at £45 per annum.

The Boys' section, under Frank Adams, was run along similar lines. An excerpt from H.M. Inspector's report states 'too much is done for the boys and they are quite content to be passive whilst their teachers do all the work'.

Staff for many years: Frank Adams, Master (Boys); Miss Jane Newman, Mistress (Girls and Infants); Miss Florence Burridge, Miss S. Hughes, Pupil Teachers (Infants).

The school was enlarged again in 1901, 1914 and 1927 when it held 683 children. It flourishes today, its early portions and additions being clearly discernible. It became Branksome Heath School when, as Branksome Urban District, the area incorporated with Poole.

The Poole and Dorset Herald of 1895 'reports a meeting of the Kinson School Board at Kinson Heath School. President, G. T. Budden, present, Reverend A. Mortimer Sharp (Vicar of Kinson), W. Carter (Kinson Potteries), E. Davies, R. Crabb and H. W. Dibben (Clerk). The progress of each standard for each school was reported on for the three R's, History and Geography with needlework for the girls. General behaviour was discussed and the girls of Heatherlands were reported as being very orderly and attentive and giving no trouble. The discipline at Kinson Heath was very pleasing but occasional talking was noted. It was agreed that gymnastic apparatus in the form of a swing or a giant's stride should be provided at Kinson Heath (what would the Board have thought of its latest addition, an open-air swimming pool?).

Government grants to the schools at this time were £394 16s. 0d. to Heatherlands and £365 3s. 0d. to Kinson Heath (compared to £80 only for a larger number of children before it became a Board School under the 1872 Act).

The bad weather had kept so many children from school that it was decided to close the school for the rest of the week (it being a Tuesday) to allow the weather time to improve.

It was among the boys of this district that Robert Bell, a Poole Engineer, started a youth movement similar to but pre-dating the Boy Scouts.

HEATHERLANDS SCHOOL - CROMWELL ROAD

There was a British School marked here on the map of 1873-85 but the early portions of the present school was built here in 1891-3 and came under the aegis of the Kinson School Board. It was for boys, girls and infants and was needed to share, with Kinson Heath, the increase in the number of pupils in that area. A new Infants School was added in 1898 at the cost of £250, and a further addition to the whole school came in 1903 when it held 675 children. This school remains today, tall, red-brick, rather forbidding from the outside, dominating its rise of land.

OTHER SCHOOLS

In 1911 the Dorset County Council built an entirely new school in the East Howe area on a site situated in Kinson Road. These premises provided accommodation for 310 children of all ages.

By the time this part of Kinson was incorporated in Bournemouth in 1931 it had been necessary to provide three additional classrooms in temporary wooden constructions and the Bournemouth Authority had to provide still further accommodation soon afterwards, and at the same time to hire accommodation for the Infants' section of the school. A separate Infants' section was accommodated in premises belonging to the Congregational Church and the school had to continue' in very crowded conditions until entirely new premises were completed in Hadow Road in 1936. In 1937 new premises were also provided in Hadow Road for the senior boys and girls and the original premises erected in 1911 were then adapted for use as a Junior School. A new Junior School was built in 1967; since then the premises in Kinson Road have been used as additional accommodation for the infant children of the Kingsleigh (former East Howe) First School. In connection with the rapid development of the West Howe and Cudnell areas since the end of the war in 1945, several new schools have been built.

The school erected in 1862 at Talbot Village was not under the jurisdiction of Kinson, except for the religious instruction of the pupils, until 1919, the schoolroom itself being used for Divine Service each Sunday until 1870 when the church was built.

The 1865 Directory tells us that Mrs. and Miss Nicholson ran a Young Ladies' School in the parish.

Back in the Kinson of the 1880s an elderly lady, Fanny White, ran a school in one of the cottages opposite the church. There was payment of a penny a day.

A small independent school for the young children was established at the beginning of the century. This was at 'The Hyde', a house on the piece of land along Kinson Road which was destined to become Hyde Road.

Section 5

CHURCHES AND PARISH

The churches up-river from Christchurch to Wimborne are on alternate sides of the River Stour. St. Andrew's, Kinson, is on the south side of the river on the outskirts of the village, built upon a rise of land on the bend of Millhams Lane.

All signs of the Saxon church on this site have gone with the possible exception of the foundation of the tower. The Norman church which succeeded the Saxon building survived until 1893 when the nave was rebuilt, the north aisle altered and a south aisle added at the cost of £1,500.

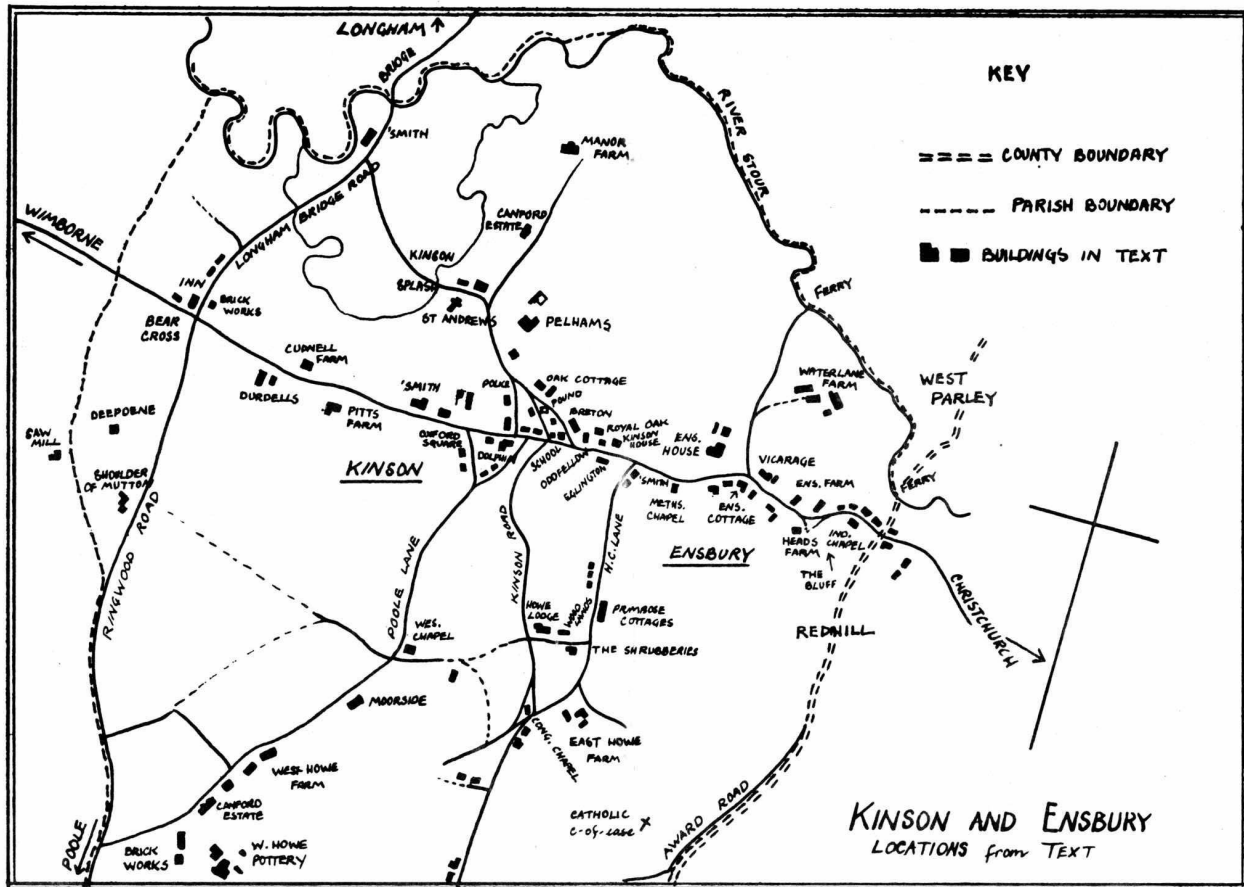
The Early English chancel arch remains and this was reinforced by a lower arch in 1875 when the chancel was restored by Colonel Fryer, in memory of his father. The church register dates from 1728.

The church until 1893 consisted of the tower, nave and chancel. It is built of rough-dressed local heathstone and had, since its last restoration, a stone roof. This in turn was replaced recently by tiles. The porch had a small building adjoining in which domestic rather than ecclesiastic windows suggest that this might have been used for lay purposes, probably vestry meetings. Another unusual feature was a twenty-paned dormer window to give light to the organ in the gallery, let into the nave next to the tower. There was also a skylight at the chancel end.

The Norman tower is in three stages and is surmounted by a (later) crenellated parapet. The parapet bears the grooves supposed to have been scored by ropes used to hoist kegs and bales of contraband to the top of the tower which was used as a temporary hiding place. It would also have made a useful lookout. There is a doorway, no longer used, in the north side of the tower and a small lancet-shaped window (splayed inside). Both would have proved useful when the tower was used as a schoolroom. The main entrance is now in the nave on the south side.

In earlier times there were six bells (some report seven) but all bar one were sold in 1797 to a Bristol church for £143 9s. 4d. less £9 5s. 6d. carriage. One of the bells, a treble, had been cast at Shaston (Shaftesbury) in 1751 at the cost of £13 8s. 2d. and carried to Kinson for twelve shillings. The money from the bells was needed to improve the church and this was done at the cost of £27 2s. 3d. by Joseph Puce, who put up a new gallery and replaced a beam. A new organ was installed at about this time. Before the sale of the bells sixpence was allowed in the church accounts for beer for the bellringers, and in 1812 the bells were rung to celebrate the occasion of the taking of the Dutch fleet; presumably the bells had been replaced by this time. The clock was placed in the tower in 1904 in memory of Queen Victoria.

In the east of the churchyard, by the gate, was a sundial. The copper face had the date 1675 engraved on it, a sun with classic features and the legend 'Time is Short'. It had been remounted but has since been defaced and removed. The flowerbeds in the churchyard were kept stocked for many years by Mr. Keevil who retired to Kinson. Nearly all the stones remain in their original positions and many styles are represented. The coffin-shaped, the horizontal slabs, altar tombs for single or multiple burials and the traditional upright stones are of local limestone with incised, or lead lettering. Imported marbles and granites appear alongside the Victorian



Pages 34 and 35 (centrepiece)

ornamental iron-work, and high polishing is a feature of the more recent memorials. They tell many stories; of the extent of the parish, the inter-relationship of Kinson and Poole families, of sudden death and remarkable old age, of virtue and of lawlessness. The following are of particular interest:

(i) A face, a moth and a skull, in that order, are represented on an early 18th-century stone. The moth perhaps represents the deterioration with which it is associated in the Bible.

(ii) A mastaba-shaped tomb, about five feet long, which carries the inscription 'here lyeth the body of John Weare of Little Canford' (beyond Hampreston) 'glover who was buried here October 15th 1667, a man industrious, peaceable and charitable. In the name of his daughter Catherine he gave to the poor of Kinson, Cudnell and Ensbury the sum of ten shillings yearly to be paid out of his lands at West Moors for ever.'

(iii) Just west of the porch is a large altar-tomb with a lid which moved on a pivot and which is said to have been dedicated to fictitious persons, Jane and William Oakely, 1718 and 1724, and thought to have been used as a hiding place for contraband goods.

(iv) Behind the church and near the large memorial to members of the Fryer family is the grave of a smuggler killed in an affray with the coastguards on a stretch of shore at that time part of Kinson's parish. It is inscribed 'To the memory of Robert Trotman, late of Rowd(e) in the County of Wilts., who was barbarously murdered on the shore near Poole, 24th March 1765.

A little tea, one leaf I did not steal,
For guiltless blood shed I to God appeal;
Put tea in one scale, human blood in t'other,
And think what 'tis to slay thy harmless brother.'

The fact that this verse, here corrected, was allowed in the churchyard, along with so much activity in that direction, seems to indicate that the clergy turned a blind eye to contrabandiers. When the stone was cleaned and restored the name of Rowd was misspelt as Rond.

Inside it can be seen that the church was rebuilt very simply. The new windows are of plain glass but have their shapes outlined with a narrow band of ruby glass. There are six more ornamental windows. The largest, a three-pointed pictorial window, in the east chancel wall was put in place when the chancel was restored and is in remembrance of John Fryer of Wimborne. The windows in the north and south chancel walls were placed in memory of further members of the Fryer family. Their coats-of-arms are shown, and the initials of John Fryer, Fryer-Read or Fryer-Harding are entwined and repeated in each diamond pane of glass. Another pictorial window dedicated in 1895 to Colonel Godfrey Russell is in the

east wall of the south aisle, and there is a further light in memory of Charles C. B. Russell 1937. The Russells, who lived in nearby Kinson House, and the Fryers, once of Pelhams, were well-known Kinson benefactors.

The stone from an earlier Mass or scratch dial is built into the 13th-century sandstone chancel arch. These dials were roughly marked out to show the hours and had a wooden peg in a central socket to cast the shadow; necessities before the universal possession of clocks. Originally placed in the outer walls of churches the dials occasionally reappeared inside when rebuilding had taken place - as at St. Andrew's, where it is also set in upside down. Also in the chancel, against the north wall, stands a Glastonbury chair. It was saved from that abbey at its destruction and a Latin inscription tells us that it belonged to the monk Johannes. The pulpit and reading desk are of oak and were presented in 1898 in memory of the Reverend Percy Newell and the Misses Newell, who lived at Pelhams. In the floor is a stone inscribed to the memory of John Wellstead and his wife, Jaen, who died in 1782 and 1730 respectively. Besides several other memorial tablets there is a brass plaque in remembrance of those men of the parish killed during the 1914-18 War, and an illuminated book containing the names of parishioners who gave their lives in the Second World War. The Commandment Board is now tucked away high in the north-west corner of the church. It is of wood and is 'unusual as it represents an open book. This board, together with two giving the Lord's Prayer and the Creed and represented as scrolls, is executed with a freedom from the restriction often found in these boards. Above the Creed and Prayer boards, in the shadow of the inner wall of the tower, is a board bearing the royal arms of Hanover. In 1760 £5 was paid to a Mr. Taylor for 'beautifying' these arms. The organ is modern, given in memory of Felicia Russell in 1943.

The tower is entered through a door under the Arm's Board. Inside it will be seen that the walls at their base are almost four feet thick, well shown by the striking Anglo-Norman splayed windows. On the walls hang two old wooden boards. One has a blessing written rather irregularly on it ; the writing is surrounded by a design of thorns and surmounted by the head and wings of a robust orange angel. The second board states that the chapel wing was enlarged in 1827 to give an additional 130 seats. Funds were granted from the Society for Promoting the Enlargement of Churches and Chapels. The mechanism of the clock is on the ground floor of the tower room. Across one corner of the tower is the 19th-century fireplace.

Back in the nave stands the font. The bowl is octagonal and of Purbeck marble, 13th century, arcaded. It is lead lined and in two places the lead on the top rim shows the marks of the locks which once held a cover over the font. It was found necessary to lock covers on to fonts to prevent the theft of the consecrated water for use in Black Magic. Some of

the remaining records would make an interesting study in themselves. They are: an old Vestry Book, a Register of Services, Register of Births and Marriages, a Churchwardens' Account Book and the Insurance Policy of the old church building. Besides these is the Faculty granted by John, Bishop of Salisbury, in 1894 for dismantling, rebuilding and extending the old church. The nave and north and south aisles were re-built on this occasion and the pews and galleries removed.

A photograph of the old church shows that it presented a very cluttered appearance. The wagon roof had low cross beams, and an assortment of box pews faced the pulpit and lectern, which were against the south wall to benefit from the only window in that quarter, the skylight. A large iron stove stood roughly in the centre of the church, its flue rising vertically to the roof. The gallery bearing the organ ran across the west end. John Hiley Austin of Ensbury House, one-time vicar of Tarrant Keynston, Dorset, noted in 1852 that some of the older men bowed on entering St. Andrew's and observed that it was the custom in his church for the congregation similarly to bow to their clergyman. A custom lingering from earlier days?

Until 1866 Kinson had been a chapelry annexed to the Vicarage of the church of Great Canford, whose clerics performed the services. The curate of Great Canford had resided in Kinson since 1846. In this year (1866), when Kinson was made a separate parish, the curate officiating at the time, the Reverend Egerton Frederick Daniells, was licensed as the first Perpetual Curate of Kinson. (He became the first vicar of the parish of Heatherlands in 1866 and was succeeded at Kinson by the Reverend Burton Weldon, from Canford, until 1891, when the Reverend Mortimer Sharp became vicar, remaining until 1930.) By an Act of Parliament in 1868 the Perpetual Curacy became a Vicarage with the patronage in the hands of Sir Ivor Guest. The living was worth £150 a year. Tithes belonged to the landowners for two years out of three, and to the vicar for the third. An endowment was created by Sir Ivor Guest and Miss Georgina Talbot aided by the Ecclesiastic Commissioners, and the vicar of Kinson performed Divine Service at the school-chapel of Talbot Village and St. Mark's Church from 1870 to 1919, when this became an independent parish. The living in 1918, with that of Talbot Village, was held with a joint yearly income of only £75.

The Reverend Smith, Kinson's last vicar from Canford, was invited back to spend a week in Kinson and was presented with a splendid silver teapot (value £14) as a mark of deep regard and respect. It appears that someone unaccustomed to the ceremony of tea-making selected the gift. A newspaper of the time comments: '... some surprise was felt at finding the Tea Pot was unaccompanied by its usual appendages but on enquiring we have learned it is the intention of his late parishioners to lose no time in making good the oversight and to request the Reverend Gentleman's acceptance of a Sugar Basin and Cream Ewer to match the Tea Pot'. Back to the fund raising.

Tithing of Kinson, a chapelry within the Manor of Canford, as already shown extended from the Stour (except a few acres of Hampreston Parish) to the coast, from the County Boundary in the east to Canford Heath in the west. It remained this size until the 19th century when two Acts of Parliament brought about a nation-wide creation of new parishes. A series of new parishes formed considerably reduced its extent, thus:

1833 The parish of St. Peter's, Parkstone, formed and a church built there in the same year. This took a large area from the south-west corner, leaving a narrow strip (around Branksome Chine) to the west and all the land north of the present Ashley Road to the Stour.

1866 The above area became the independent parish of Kinson, i.e. from chapel-of-ease to Church, from Chapel-Wardens to Church-Wardens, from Canford's curate or clerk-vicar to a Vicarage.

1877 The parish of All Saints, Branksome Park, formed. Loss of the coastal strip and all lands northward up to the Talbot Estate, Bourne Valley. The church of All Saints was built in this year.

1886 The parish of Heatherlands was formed from the land between Ashley Road and the Wallisdown Road of today. St. John the Evangelist (erected in 1881 and still in use as the Church Hall) formerly a chapel-of-ease to St. Andrew's, became the parish church and was replaced by a new building in 1903. (The parish of St. Clement's was to be carved, in 1904, from Heatherlands with the former chapel-of-ease, St. Clement's, built in 1889, as its parish church.) The earliest chapel-of-ease to St. Andrew's at Kinson Heath (Heatherlands) was St. Saviour's. This existed in 1879 and may well have been on the corner of Cranbrook and Grove Roads where later the (corrugated?) Iron Church, the first St. Clement's, was situated.

1919 The parish of St. Mark's, Talbot Village, became independent of Kinson. This parish extended from Ensbury Park and East Howe in the north to Bourne Valley in the south, from the County Boundary in the east to Alder Road in the west. The church, St. Mark's, erected in 1870 by Georgina Talbot, becoming fully independent with Kinson's curate as its first vicar.

In 1967 the parish of St. Thomas, Ensbury Park, was formed from that of Talbot Village and a further small portion of Kinson added to it. This leaves the parish as roughly triangular, with the Stour as its northern boundary, just beyond Ringwood Road in the west and Wallisdown Road at its southern end to Kinson Road, then cutting across to Saxonhurst Road, Redhill and back to the Stour. This served by St. Andrew's Church assisted by St. Phillip's and St. Matthew's, outposts within the parish.

PARISH MAGAZINES

Of the Parish magazines of the 1800s the Canford and Kinson Parish Magazine contained beautiful black and white illustrations, especially its cover, proverbs, stories and sermons with even a Natural History section, but no reference at all to Kinson or Canford. It was printed in Derby. The Kinson Parish Messenger, not illustrated, devoted most of its pages to Collects, sermons, poems (one by the vicar) and the calendar for the month. Parish Notes were also featured giving schools' accounts, baptisms, marriages, burials and church notes. The December 1879 issue, gives us the rules for the Lads Sunday School Fife and Drum Band concerning conditions of membership, fines for non-attendance, for bad language, for unpunctuality, the payment of fines, the times and places where members should not play and stating that no intoxicating liquor was to be consumed, and powers of dismissal by the Hon. Captain the Reverend Edmund Sullen, a retired Rector of Howe Lodge. The list of those exemplary men and boy members contains the names of old Kinson families, Bartlett, White, Barnes, Downton, Spicer, Cole and Hicks.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS

A Congregational Chapel, the second oldest in Bournemouth, built in 1834, stood at the south end of East Howe Lane. It was under the aegis of Throop Congregational until 1874 when it came under the jurisdiction of Richmond Hill Congregational Church, Bournemouth. In 1880, Mr. Martin Kemp-Welch gave land adjoining for a Mission Hall.

The Methodists first met in a thatched cottage part way up Poole Lane at its junction with the lane that became Moore Avenue. In 1895 the Poole Methodists built a chapel on the main road just east of the village. It was of typical 'village chapel' design in red brick and slate; the interior was panelled and beamed with much dark wood. The Sunday school sermons were of the 'hellfire and brimstone' variety and most entertaining. When gas lamps were erected on the pulpit the risk that the pulpit-thumping would bring down the lot was an added attraction which drew children from the rival Sunday schools. The 1895 chapel's foundation stones were laid by Dr. Samuel Montgomery and Wilson Hogue. When the little chapel was pulled down the foundation stones were kept and incorporated in the new church hall built in 1967. The new church, replacing the chapel, was erected near by in 1957. There was another Methodist chapel at Highmoor, now Wallisdown crossroads (still standing).

Independents met regularly at the Assembly Rooms from 1851 at least.

Salvationists met at Winton or Constitution Hill.

Catholics - The area of oldest Catholic establishment is that of the Holy Cross Abbey, Stapehill, which was founded in 1637. The area it served included part of the Canford Estate so that Stapehill or Poole were the nearest places for Kinsonians of that persuasion to worship or receive schooling. In 1802 the nuns came to Stapehill and ran a one-roomed day school; the Jesuits had given lessons here before.

The early Catholics at Bournemouth met in the old Belle Vue Hotel. The Oratory of the Sacred Heart was built in 1869, and the church of the Sacred Heart in 1875 and was enlarged in 1900. Father Mockler, who said the first Mass in Bournemouth, is buried at Stapehill.

In 1895, Branksome parish was formed from part of St. Mary's, Poole. Its church, St. Joseph's, still survives as the parish hall to its successor, built in 1962. The Kinson and Ensbury Park district was served by this new parish (of Branksome) and a small wooden chapel-of-ease was erected in Coombe Gardens, Ensbury Park.

Branksome, Ensbury Park and Kinson are in the Diocese of Plymouth since these were taken from the parish of Poole, Dorset. Those parishes east of the old County Boundary are in the Portsmouth Diocese.

In 1918, when a Catholic family occupied the house, a room in Ensbury Manor, near Kinson, was set aside for the local people to use.

It was not until the early 1930s that the independent parish at Ensbury Park, including Kinson, was formed, with its church of St. Bernadette opened in 1934. It was Father O'Riorden (of Branksome) who pressed for independence for Ensbury Park. He worked hard to raise funds for a church there and at one time was involved in a lottery to raise money. He was taken to court, but this injustice against a priest with such good intent so incensed a local lady that she gave generously, enabling the new church to be built. Parishioners of Kinson are further indebted to Father O'Riorden, who at this time had the forethought to acquire for £1,200 a four-and-a-half-acre plot of land in the wilds beyond Kinson, now Durdells Avenue. This was thought at the time to be a folly, but with the development of the area proved to be a good investment, as the much needed school and church of Christ the King were built there in late 1959 and 1966. Father O'Riorden left the parish of Branksome in 1940 for a living in Portsmouth and was succeeded by Father Chapple.

In 1938 a Mass Centre was set up at the Dolphin Inn, Kinson. It was in the club room used for Lodge meetings and by a Sports Club and set amid the appurtenances of both activities. This was followed by a hut in Truman Road, then a hall, and next a temporary church. St. Theresa's, Kinson's own chapel-of-ease, was built in 1950 in Truman Road and became the parish church in its own right in 1959, when the parish of Kinson was established with Father O'Regan, parish priest.

Mrs. Lindsay-Clegg in the 1950s did invaluable work for the parish. She was responsible for the Catechism Classes which were necessary before the Catholic School, for the 'Brownies', for helping distressed families and for Youth Work.

The School of Christ the King was built in 1959, but until then the children had attended either St. Joseph's, Branksome, or St. Walburga's, Charminster. After the school had been built a church was required at Durdells Avenue, and it seemed that there would be a long wait for the funds but this was not so. Mrs. Margaret Wells, a local resident, changed her Will so that in due course £40,000 became available. This, added to the money already contributed, meant that work on the church could be started and the church of Christ the King was opened in June 1966. Father Donovan, the present priest, succeeded Father O'Regan in 1962 and has been described as the moving spirit of the enterprise. Kinson, thirty years ago very much the poor parish of Bournemouth, has emerged now as probably the best.

This section commenced with a description of the parish's oldest church and will close with an account of its newest one, Christ the King.

The Architect, Max Cross, has successfully combined the traditional with the modern. The design, materials and lighting of today have incorporated the layout and features that have endured over the years, and alongside such things as the modern table altar and pulpit are the traditional carvings and crucifixes. Wrought iron screens featured are the design of today but would not look out of place in the church of centuries past. The vestment rooms and other offices would be the envy of most priests and vicars - were such feeling permissible. The neat, built-in Confessionals have a light signal system when in use, and a safe and toilets have usefully been incorporated within this 20th-century church.

Christ the King presents a tall thin tower of red brick flanked by the body of the church on one side and the presbytery on the other. A niche at the foot of the tower holds a fibre-glass figure of Christ. There is a generous forecourt before the church and playing fields and the school to the rear.

The impression on entering is of light and warmth, light from the white walls, predominantly white floors and the range of low, wide-arched windows on either side, warmth from the glow of scarlet and ruby fittings, polished woodwork and panels of rich, glowing glass. The central aisle, inlaid to give the effect of a ladder or stairway, leads between plaques showing the fourteen Stations of the Cross to the main feature of the church, the Sanctuary. Here the cut-away designed table altar of polished Purbeck stone is so placed that Mass is celebrated by recipients facing the congregation according to modern liturgy.

Over it hangs the traditional Baldachino. This is a canopy of maplewood cushioned with rich scarlet over a crucifix reproduced from a famous statue whose shadow is thrown by floodlights on to the altar. An outstanding feature is the south-west wall of the Sanctuary. It is 30 feet high, concave, and comprises of panels of American walnut, a warm wood which, when lit by light filtering through the coloured panes of glass in the south and west walls, draws the eye to the altar. This is flanked by six large, bronze candlesticks, and there is a tabernacle set in a decorative niche of Sicilian marble in the Sanctuary wall behind the altar. The very modern pulpit is of bronze and marble, but here the ornamentation ends and the rest of the building in stone, leather and polished wood is on very simple, clear-cut lines. A Lady Chapel south of the Sanctuary holds a tinted wooden statue of Mary and Child carved in the Italian Tyrol, as is also the larger figure of Christ to be found across the aisle. This is the wooden mould for the fibre-glass figure which is mounted on the outer wall of the church, but is a beautiful and delicately detailed carving in its own right. The cone-shaped font of polished Portland stone set in an alcove well within the church bears neither pillars nor arcading but a Greek inscription and a dove. The rich vestments were made by the nuns of the Carmelite Convent, Branksome. From the selection of chalices, one was presented new to the church at its opening and another, a gold one, was a gift to the present Father Donovan. The organ (Hammond electric) and the choir benches for 30-40 children and adults are up in the gallery at the back of the church. A meeting room balances the Lady Chapel on the plan, and Confessionals on either side of the church complete the picture. By the door a plaque commemorates Mrs. Margaret Wells.

KINSON CHARITIES

The Weare Charity was paid according to a bequest of John Weare who died in 1667. An account of this is given earlier. Weare's lands at West Moors were held by Isaac Gulliver by 1786, who paid the charity annually until his death in 1822, when his son-in-law, William Fryer, took over the duty and paid 'a small sum yearly to a poor woman'. On the death of Fryer the payment lapsed, but as a result of the Charities Commission of 1819-37, an inquiry was held, the reference to the charity found and the payment of 'this trifling sum' resumed. It was still being paid annually in 1868.

The William's Charity, 1820. At the time of the Commission(1819-37) £350 of Mrs. William's bequest was still standing in the names of Reverend James Hanham, Reverend James Mayo and Reverend William Oldfield Bartlett, vicar of Great Canford. The last-named received 5 guineas a year from Fryer's Bank, Wimborne, to be shared equally by three men and two women of his selection, members of the established Church, who were receiving no, or very little, Parish Relief.

William Fryer Gift. In 1824 William Fryer, owner of Pelhams, conveyed to John Way (Chapel-warden of St. Andrew's and landowner of East Howe) and two others '... a piece of waste land on Kinson Heath at East Howe containing one acre, in trust, for the benefit of the parishioners and inhabitants of Kinson to be managed and to be disposed of as they should direct'. A building was erected and used as a poor-house. (There is no trace of it now, neither did it appear in the Returns of 1851.) A tablet in St. Andrew's commemorates John Way who died in 1846, aged seventy. A charitable bequest of a later Fryer, Isaac, probably son of William, was still paying £4 10s. 0d. for the benefit of the poor in the 1920s. Further bequests were by Miss Georgina Talbot, 1870, and Mrs. Sara Way, 1860, farmer and landowner of Woodlands. This was the property adjoining Howe Lodge, home of John Way, Trustee of the Fryer Charity. In this century Miss Whittaker, who lived at Brookside, the house to become the permanent vicarage for St. Andrew's, left money in trust to the church.

The sum of Kinson Charities today is so small (it was £35 17s. 0d. in the 1920s) that it is left to accumulate.

Section 6

INNS

The Dolphin at the centre of Kinson is built on to an older building thought to be part of the original 17th-century coaching inn. By 1903, the licensee was able to advertise accommodation for commercials and cyclists as well as excellent stabling. The building we see today contains a small house of the last century with more modern additions.

Licensees on record are:

- 1840 Charles Spencer
- 1880 Mrs. Mary Spencer
- 1903 Charles Bennett
- 1918 Henry Eaton - (also R.A.C. scout in early days of motoring).

The old inn at Bear Cross was a thatched cottage a little behind the site of the present hotel. It was strategically placed at the crossing of the two main roads, just gravel tracks with grass verges and overhung by trees. A large sign on the wall proclaimed its purpose. Supplies were brought in from Poole and on special occasions, when extra beer was needed, a donkey cart had to be dispatched in haste for further supplies. The new Bear Cross Hotel was built in 1931 in front of the old inn which was then pulled down. Two cottages at the back of the inn were all that

remained of a little community beyond Kinson for many years; these, too, have now gone. The name of Bear Cross appears to mark the crossing of two roads near a dip in the land known as Bear Bottom. 'Bear' in this case probably being a corruption of the Dorset place-name, Bere.

Beer retailers here were:

1859 George Ware - Beer retailer and bricklayer

1890 Edwin Lane

1903 Frank Lane

New Hotel 1931 Philip Mead

Philip Mead was a cricketer of renown. He played for Hampshire from 1905 to 1936, and for England in 19 Tests, scoring 55,060 runs in his career.

To the south and a pleasant walk along the road to West Howe is the Shoulder of Mutton Inn. Its name indicates that at one time meat also was sold there; a real carcass would have been hung out as a sign. The bar occupied the front room of one of the two adjoining cottages and today is little altered. There was stabling at the side.

Licensees :

1851 Richard Wheatlen

1865 Charles Beckenham

1890 Harry Toms -Innkeeper, builder and contractor, later shopkeeper.

1903 Richard Atkins

1918 William Saunders, followed by the Misses Cross, senior and junior.

For those preferring a longer walk, beyond the 'Shoulder' was James Cherrett's beer shop and garden at East Howe, and the King's Arms at Highmoor. Beer retailing and innkeeping were often coupled with other occupations, such as brickmaking, farming or a wheelwright's.

The Sea View Inn with surrounding cottages stands on the high land above Kinson Potteries overlooking Poole Harbour. Kinson now is in no way associated with the sea, but 70 years ago the people from this side of the parish had many connections with the harbour and the sea. The inn is now enlarged but the original building can be seen behind the new portion.

The old Albion at Newtown, affectionately known as the 'Snake and Pickaxe', still stands but with additions at front and sides, leaving very little of the original showing.

Three more places retaining the names but not the original buildings of the last century are the King's Arms, Highmoor Cross, the Pottery Inn, opposite Kinson Potteries, and the Woodman Tavern which served those living on Poole Heath.

Back at the centre of Kinson we now have the Royal Oak. Until 1840 this inn was known as the Traveller's Rest, no doubt because it was a convenient halting place for travellers between nearby towns. Until the construction of the New Road, travellers coming from the north-west to the town entered over Longham Bridge and on through Kinson. Later the inn's name was changed to the Five Alls. The sign read:

I rule for all
I pray for all
I work for all
I fight for all
I plead for all. It refers to five professions.

In 1863 the name changed yet again to the Royal Oak. The son and daughter of William Messenger, one-time licensee of the inn, discovered a trade signboard at the back of a cupboard in the old inn. It makes amusing reading and will be quoted in full later. The board was hung in the bar and many postcard reproductions of it were sold. The building, a low L-shaped white-washed one, was lit by oil-lamps and great care had to be taken so that the smell of the oil did not affect the taste of the beer. I have met an old man who declares that 'electric-lit' beer is not up to the old oil-lit kind. It is pleasant to imagine the soft glow of the oil lamps reflected on the glasses at the end of the day. The old Royal Oak was demolished some years ago and replaced by a new public house still bearing the same name.

Beer retailers :

1840 Joshua Wareham (Traveller's Rest)
1890 Nathaniel Spicer
1918 William Messenger

The proprietors of the Dolphin and the Shoulder were innkeepers, whereas those of the Bear Cross and Royal Oak were beer retailers. Perhaps the last two did not offer accommodation.

INQUESTS

Where there was no official building for such purposes the local inn was often used for inquests, inquiries, etc. There is a report of an inquest held at the Royal Oak. It concerned the death of Mr. Wareham, farmer of Ensbury, who was killed by a bull that he was taking to Wimborne market. He was leading the beast, with its head tied to its foreleg,

when the bull, which was in a bad temper, broke loose. The bull fatally injured its owner and ran on through Canford, where it knocked down a gentleman and was finally shot. As a result of this disaster a law was introduced to the effect that bulls should not be led in public without a ring, with a chain attached, through the nose. Another inquest, held in 1846 at the Shoulder of Mutton Inn, was over a 'poor man' who fell intoxicated from his wagon of coal. Had he lived he might like his fellow Kinsonian, have been fined 5s. 0d. with 8s. 0d. costs for drunkenness.

Section 7

TRADES, OCCUPATIONS AND ENTERTAINMENTS

POTTERIES

The reddish clays deposited around the north and east of Poole harbour are not of the best quality but are suitable for the manufacture of bricks and pottery. In 1830 one third of the pottery in England was made from Poole clay. The trend is shown in these figures:

Early 18th century	20,000 tons exported
1884	60,000 tons exported
1952	6,000 tons exported

This trade gave employment to many from Elizabethan times onwards and over the years many small brick kilns and pottery works, especially in the Ashley and Alder Roads area, were established, worked for a time and then abandoned.

There were several small family brickmaking concerns. The daughter of one such remembered that her father went out of business because he refused to make the inferior bricks it was necessary to produce to keep up with the demand. Each batch of bricks was tested by the method of dropping several and if they broke or chipped the lot were suspect and put aside for building outhouses or boundary walls. She recalls that the men of the family carried out a perpetual shift system as the kilns had to be tended day and night. Since all domestic cookery was by kitchen range, which meant a very hot kitchen in summer, it was customary for the wives to have an open-air brick range, sometimes communal, for fine weather cooking and washing. As the house of today requires a garage to shelter its car, so the houses of that time required an adjoining field to supply summer food and winter hay for their horsepower, the pony and cart. Another necessity was the family pig and most households kept a 'pig in'. Not an ounce of the animal was wasted and any spare fat was rubbed into the brickmakers' and brickmakers' mates' (wives and children) hands.

A few potteries grew and remained as large concerns, but two only really relate to Kinson.

Kinson Potteries situated in the south-west corner of the parish towards Poole had 27 acres of clay of three different qualities, some beds being as much as 40 feet thick although all were under a great depth of sand. The pottery works here were started early last century but received a fillip with the increase in building around Poole and Bournemouth. In 1854 the Kinson Clayfields and Fired Pottery Company was established with a capital of £40,000. The money was raised by a business group from 'up country' and the potteries leased locally. By the 1860s the works had twelve kilns, a boiler, engine house, drying sheds, stables and offices. Bricks, tiles, chimney pots and drain pipes were made. At about this time oil had been found in Canada and an oilfield established at Collingwood. Good fire-bricks were required for the processing and the potteries at Kinson manufactured refractory chimney flue bricks which suited the purpose. Orders for them were sent back home and the goods duly despatched. Their progress was recently traced and went thus: by horse and cart from the potteries to Poole Quay, by barge to London or Southampton, across the Atlantic to Quebec or Montreal, by raft or barge up the St. Lawrence river to York (present Toronto), by railway to Collingwood harbour, by raft along the southern shores to Nottawasaga Bay to the beach nearest the site and by hand the rest of the way. Cheaper oil was found elsewhere and production at Collingwood ceased in 1861. Recently some of the bricks, each bearing the words KINSON, POOLE, were found in a field there. One was returned to England in 1969 and presented to the potteries.

The fortunes of the concern had declined by 1884 when William Carter bought the property now called Kinson Potteries. William was the son of Jesse Carter, virtual founder of the Poole potteries, and was to be the father of Herbert Carter, well known in Poole. The new owner of the property reorganised, cut down here and rebuilt there, and relying on judgement and experience gained in a small brickworks he already owned, he began to make a success of the business. Stoneware, drain pipes and various terra cotta goods were made. He adopted steam road haulage when it was first introduced to the advantage of the firm but to the detriment of the Corporation's roads. Early calls to clients were by penny-farthing and later ones by one of the first cars in the district. A German expert was employed to build a special kiln that was required. William Carter moved into The Hermitage, then a cottage overlooking the potteries and part of the property. By the beginning of the century his son Herbert was working at the pottery. According to Herbert Carter, whose book 'I Call to Mind' has been a valuable reference for this paragraph, the business was none too efficient with the best having to be made of an old engine with another similar one added in 1905. Inside the sheds were lit by bottle-lamps, these being 'portable' lamps of cast iron which burnt poor paraffin. It was decided that

the deep layer of sand, hitherto unused, should be utilised in the making of the new continental sand and lime bricks. This venture was not a great success and money had to be invested in new machinery from the Continent. At this point the power was changed from steam to anthracite (gas) in an endeavour to save fuel. There was gradual success until a setback in the form of an explosion which caused great damage, though no loss of life, and disrupted work for one year. The firm gradually flourished in spite of competition from larger concerns; Herbert Carter succeeded his father and became Chairman of Directors in 1908.

A fire in the 1950s led to the introduction of new installations and methods. Production concentrated on chimney pots, flue linings and land drains of new design. One of the last ventures was into decorative pottery and an award was given by the Council of Industrial Design for fused glass and stoneware dishes submitted as Investiture souvenirs. By 1970 the potteries had been closed and demolished.

Elliott's Potteries started at Bear Cross. Mr. E. A. Elliott, who farmed extensively in the area, discovered good brick clay when a well was sunk on his farm at Cudnell. A brickworks was started here where the farmland met the crossroads, and hand-made bricks were made from around 1880 to 1900. When the clay at Bear Cross ran out the brickworks was moved to the rise of land at West Howe, in Poole Lane. The clay here was a much better quality Ball Clay. Later, in 1912, drain pipes, terra cotta ware and roofing tiles were manufactured in addition to bricks. In 1922, Mr. N. T. Elliott entered the firm and by 1927 the manufacture of bricks for domestic fireplaces was started and these, together with stoneware drain pipes, were made until the potteries closed in 1966. Bournemouth Corporation and Max Factor's (local light industry) bought the land.

To the east of Elliott's stood Painter and Ropers 'Kinson Steam Brickworks', later owned by Burdens. This was a smaller concern where hand-made bricks were manufactured.

Shops. Two of Kinson's earliest recorded shopkeepers, of 1851, were John White and William Frampton, who was also the local carrier. White's has continued as a general stores with the Post Office added towards the end of the century. The business is known to have been in existence as a bakehouse in 1865 in the thatched cottages, known as Primrose Cottages, in East Howe Lane which are still standing. Later a retail shop was opened in the Oddfellows Hall in Wimborne Road.

As the family grew in size, Thomas White bought and moved into Breton House next door to the Hall. Later, he added a bakehouse at the back and in 1910, he built the shop on to the east wall of Breton House and moved the retail business and Post Office into there. The original shop in the Oddfellows Hall became a drapery department, still run by the family.

In the 1940s part of Breton House became an extension to the Shop, housing the Post Office, and in the 1950s the bakery department moved into the other front ground floor room.

In 1965 new premises were built on the corner of Oxford Lane and the old site was sold for redevelopment and the buildings demolished. The Oddfellows Hall, however, was not sold and still stands.

Thomas Tanner was a cabinet maker and baker in 1851, with the addition of beer retailing in 1880 when his daughter was running the bakery. Tanners seem to have removed for some years to premises south of the parish at Parkstone. Malthouses separated The Dolphin from the site that has always been a bakery over the years to the 1950s. Perhaps this was the original site of Tanners, hence the malthouses. Waldrons had the bakery from 1885.

For well over half a century the Arnolds, Edmund then Thomas, were the village blacksmiths with their smithy where Home Road now joins the main road. The Misses Spencers, daughters of the proprietor of The Dolphin, ran a Sweets and Tobacco shop with a small lending library in a cottage opposite the Inn.

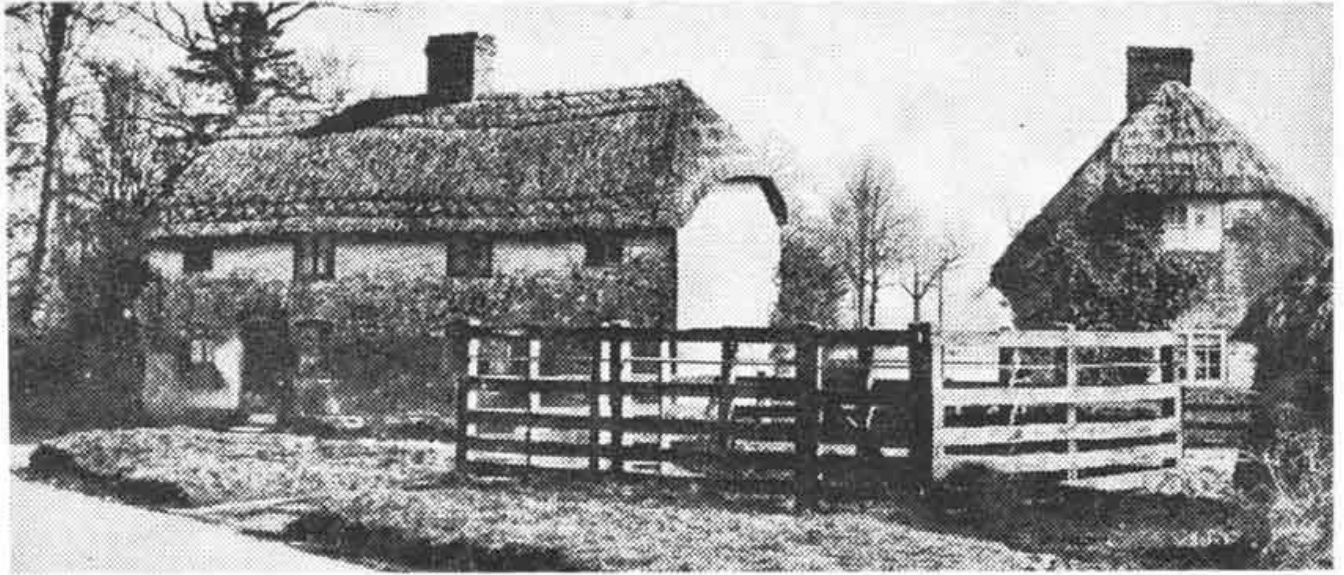
The village was centred around these shops, the school, the Liberal Club, Oddfellows Hall (Assembly Rooms), The Dolphin and Royal Oak Inns, the pound and various cottages, with Pelhams, the church and the blacksmith's a short distance away, and the four farms beyond. The first purpose-built shops were those in the parade before the Royal Oak. At Bear Cross lived Arthur Game, van and cart builder, wheelwright, blacksmith and undertaker - a versatile man.

William Sackville Cresswell (J.P.), born at Ensbury in 1843, founded a tea and indigo business but not in Kinson. This was in Calcutta in the 1870s and the firm still exists in his name.

Further requirements were supplied by Strides of Wimborne from a cart, later a van, piled high and hung about with goods, from ash bins to mouse traps. A Wimborne butcher paid regular visits; Thomas Witheridge, farmer at Pitts in the 1860s, had a butcher's shop attached to his farm. Fresh fish was brought in by pony cart by Cutlers of Poole and hawked around the streets to cries of 'fish alive'. Farms delivered milk sold straight from the churn. Jesse Short delivered his milk in churns carried on the handlebars of his bike. Cudnell Farm sent a milk cart to Bournemouth daily and sold milk and eggs locally. There was a sawmill beyond the Shoulder of Mutton at High Howe. The ornate rustic porches which embellished many of the cottages at Canford Village were made and designed by John Hicks, a thatcher who lived at Lockyers, Kinson. The directories



A map of the Kinson area taken from an Ordnance Survey Map (First Series)



Oak Cottage, photograph by kind permission of the Bournemouth Echo



Breton Corner



Kinson School about 1900



Durdells



Ensbury Vicarage

list several carpenters, wheelwrights, builders and bricklayers. An earlier cottage industry was that of glove-making. John Weare's tombstone designates him a glover in 1667, and this was a cottage industry here in the last century, but whether this has been continuous since the 17th century is not certain.

The following posts of the time are not found in Kinson today . . .

1851	Joseph Veal	Inland Revenue Superintendent
1851-9	Elisha Bartlett	Registrar of births and deaths for Canford and Kinson. (Schoolmaster)
1865	John Luther	Parish Clerk
1865	William Footner	Rate Collector
1872	David Atkins William White	Overseers of the Poor of the Parish
1890	Samuel Garland	Parish Clerk, Assistant Overseer and Vaccination Officer. (Retired Schoolmaster)
1918	Herbert Budd	Surgeon and Medical Officer for Kinson and the Canford (district of the Poole Union).
1918	Ernest Dohoo	Collector of the King's Taxes for Branksome and Kinson.

It is not known whether Roger Giles was a local man or when he lived, but his trade sign which was found in the Royal Oak is amusing to read and went as follows:

'Roger Giles, Surgin, parish clark and skulemaster, grocer and hundertaker; Respectably informs ladys and gentlemen that he drovs teef without wateing a minit, applies laches every hour, blisters on the lowest terms, and vizicks for a penny a peace. He sells Godfathers Kordales, kuts korns, btmyons, doctors hosses, clips donkeys wance a month, and undertakes to luke arter every bodies nayles by the ear.

Joesharps, penny wissels, brass kannelsticks, frying pans and other moosical hinstruments hat grately redoooced .figers. Young ladys and gantlemen larns their grammur and langedge in the purtiest manner, also grate care taken of thar morrells and spellin.

Also zarmzinging, tayching the bas viol and all zorts of fancy work, squadriles, poker, weazils and all country dances tort at home and abroad at perfekshun.

Perfumery and snuff in all its branches. As times is cruel bad I beg to tell ee that I has just begunned to sell all zorts of stashonary ware, cox, hens, vouls, pigs and other kinds of poultry.

Blacking brishes, herrins, coles, scrubbin brishes, traykel and godly bukes and bibles, misc traps, brick dist, whisker seeds, morrel

pokkerankerchers, and all zorts of swatemaits, including taters, sassages, and other garden stuff, bakky, zizars, lamp oyle, tay kittles, and other intozzilkatin likkers, a dale of fruit, hats, zongs, hare oyle, pattins, bukkits, grinding stones and other aitable, korn and bunyon zalves and all hardware.

I as laid in a large azzorment of trype, dogs mate, lolipops, ginger beer, matches, and other pikkles, such as hepsom salts, hoysters, winzer soap anzetrar.

Old rags bort and sold here and nowhere else newlayde heggs by me Roger Giles, zinging burdes kepted such as howles, donkies, paycox, lobsters, crickets, also a stock of a celebrated brayder.

P.S. I Tayches gography, rithmetic, cowsticks, jimnastics and other chynees tricks.'

Medical. The villagers had better medical attention than that offered by Roger Giles, but when, in 1846, a boy employed at Kinson Farm was injured by a kick from a colt he had to be rushed to Poole for treatment. The newspapers of this period report many terrible accidents which took place on farms, in local industries or homes, indicating the need for the stringent safety precautions of later years.

Dr. Johns, a Bournemouth doctor, ran Deep Dene, a convalescent home for consumptives. Many were soldiers who contracted tuberculosis during the First World War. When they were fit enough some of them were established in smallholdings consisting of wooden, one-storey, houses in an acre of land. These bordered the Ringwood Road from Bear Cross to West Howe and two or three remain, although little land is now cultivated. Deep Dene was situated along the west side of the Ringwood Road at West Howe where the land has been excavated for gravel, now Deep Dene Lane. Nearby are the W. H. Saunders Homes of Rest, erected in 1908 by a local builder who felt that he would like to help the poor of the parish. They consist of, six adjoining cottages whose occupants were allowed to live rent free. In 1889 the Rural Sanitary Hospital (7 beds) was opened, situated in two cottages at Bankes Heath. This later became the Isolation Hospital, the building remaining until the Land was given over to light industrial buildings. Nurse Fuller, for many years the district nurse for Kinson and Longham, travelled her rounds by pony and cart. During the 1914-18 War she trained Kinson's Red Cross Unit. 'Granny' Saunders, midwife, lived in a cottage on 'the bunny', the triangle of land between Pound Lane and Lake Road. For many years the doctor of the time held surgery in a hut almost next to The Dolphin. A wart charmer lived in an old cottage at Highmoor Cross. His method (rubbing with saliva) was crude but effective. Those living at Kinson Heath made for the Dispensary at Bournemouth.

Post and Carriers. Philip Welch, the Postal Receiver of 1851, was able to couple his post with that of a blacksmith and the story goes that the Postal Receiver around 1870 could not read. His wife tied the bundles of letters with a different coloured thread for each road or group of houses. By 1860 the letters were brought from Wimborne at 8.50 a.m. by a postman who blew a horn to announce his presence. The outgoing mail was despatched by 6.00 p.m. Some deliveries were made by donkey express. By the end of the century the Whites, already long-established as general shopkeepers, were postmasters, having taken over from Frederick Luther, postmaster for the previous 30 years. (The Post Office remains with them.) Mail was now received and despatched twice daily. Postal Orders were issued but not paid, and the nearest Telegraph Office was at Winton. The parish had three letter boxes at Kinson, Kinson Heath and Talbot Village. Those who lived in the Southern division of the parish received their mail from Poole, the rest from Wimborne. By 1918 there were pillar or wall boxes at Ensbury Park, Cudnell, East Howe and Kinson Road.

The 1865 directory tells us that William Frampton, shopkeeper and carrier, made the journey from Kinson to Wimborne each Friday. In 1903, Edward King, carrier, made the Wimborne to Bournemouth journey daily. The milk cart from Petty's Farm, Hampreston, en route for their dairies at Moordown, would stop at the Post Office to receive instructions for goods to be purchased from Winton. A visit to the Winton shops was for many a great occasion. The long walk, perhaps with a perambulator over rutted lanes and tracks, was not undertaken often. A Longham man ran a private bus service to Bournemouth on Saturday nights charging one shilling - this was when the petrol engine had superseded horsepower. As late as 1928, apart from private arrangements, people had to walk to Moordown to catch the tram to the Square. The carrier still ran daily from Wimborne to Bournemouth.

Police. The policeman at the end of last century came under the Wimborne Division. He had a wide area to patrol by bicycle. It was one of his duties to impound stray cattle, a task not easy by bicycle. There was a house (County Police Station) provided for him in Lake Road, which remains, though altered. Before this the local policeman had lodged in the village.

One native, Tom, who as a lad was employed by the Reverend Sharp, recalls that it was one of his duties to accompany the vicar around his parish. Some of the journeys were undertaken by bicycle, lit by oil lamps. Once when the vicar's lamp had gone out the pair were stopped by the local policeman, but after a short conversation the gentleman and constable parted jovially and no more was heard of the incident. When young Tom was later caught cycling without a light he was fined five shillings - two weeks' pay.

There is the story of the Kaiser Wilhelm's short stop at Kinson. In 1907 he was staying at Highcliffe Castle, and whilst out motoring with a party of fellow countrymen his car became stuck in the muddy ford called Kinson Splash. This was where a small tributary of the Stour crossed Millhams Lane, the only bridge being for pedestrians. Some villagers heard cries for help and ran to pull the gentlemen to safety. A piece of doggerel circulating the local gatherings soon after ran thus:

Jesse Short and Bill Hicks
Did the work of quite six
When they pulled Kaiser Bill
Out of Longham ditch.

The Pound, an area 12 feet by 15 feet enclosed by a stout wooden fence, was on the triangle of land formed at the junction of Pound and Millhams Lanes. The pound-keeper's cottage stood next to it. Here were brought any cattle, horses or goats found straying or causing damage. They were rounded up by the pound-keeper and here they remained until their owners paid for any damage done, for their keep and the impounding fee. Gypsies were frequent offenders; Walter Barnes and Selina Light were fined sixpence with 2s. 6d. costs in 1895 for allowing their horses to stray. The keeper of the Pound, for many years Jesse Cole, who was also the road man, could not be prevailed upon to unlock the gates until the money was handed over. Attempts to pick the lock during the night were not unknown. The pound was taken away about 35 years ago, its last keeper being Ernest Sherring. The land on which it stood was the village green with the school and some cottages to the south. For almost a decade, when the cottage and the school had been demolished, the whole triangle was land open to any who would brave the goats kept there.

General meetings and elections were held in the old school or the Assembly Rooms, the Kinson Farm barn next to the Royal Oak was used at times for community meetings and celebrations until it was burnt down. Later the Kinson Social Club and Institute was housed in two ex 1914-18 War wooden huts which stood on land on the corner of Kinson Road, given to the club by Messrs. Osborne and E. A. Elliott in memory of their sons lost in that war. Pelhams has taken over the functions of these. The Odd-fellows met in the Assembly Rooms on the corner of Millhams Lane. This red brick building with two small shops on its ground-floor and a large room above still remains today, an island amid a complex of shops and parking lots. In its early days the Kinson Masonic Lodge met in the old Royal Oak. The Liberal Club stood on the green next to the school, the meeting place for those of that persuasion. It housed a skittle alley at the back.

The Kinson Horticultural Society (centenary in 1970) holds an annual flower show. The grounds of Pelhams used to be open for this event and, besides the floral, fruit and vegetable exhibits, there were stalls, side-shows, swings and roundabouts. Food was cooked over open fires.

Hospital Sunday in mid-summer was another occasion for a display with the Boscombe Silver or the Verwood Prize Bands. Participants assembled in the cricket field where a collection was made for hospital funds. They then marched to the church for a service, and the band afterwards played in the grounds of Pelhams. Festivities were rounded off at The Dolphin with the band playing outside, with dancing and singing. There were some who disapproved of these junketings following a church service, so they were dropped.

A resident recollected a fete held annually on the day preceding the election of the mayor. School children with members of various clubs and associations accompanied by the Talbot Brass Band assembled on the village green. The procession then marched to the church where the children sat in the gallery (which makes the event between 1859 and 1893). Downstairs the men sat on one side of the aisle, the women on the other. After the service the children were presented with twopence each.

Sunday School outings, by farm cart, were to Branksome or Sandbanks as a rule, as the sea was a necessary ingredient in these trips. Another 'entertainment' was a gypsy funeral. A long procession of carts and mourners descended Poole Lane to the church. After the burial the mourners made for The Dolphin. The sad occasion generally ended with a fight.

Cricket. The village cricket pitch was on part of Kinson Close; the land south of the main road opposite the Liberal Club and extending eastwards to Eglington. The Wicket Road of today reminds us of it. Cuckoo Woods backed the pitch and close by was the huge oak tree, a local landmark, under which a spectator sheltering during a thunderstorm was struck by lightning and killed. Kinson had a very good team, playing against clubs from surrounding villages. They were one of the founder members, in 1896, of the Bournemouth Cricket Association and league winners on four occasions in its early years. Local names are in evidence in the teams over the years, including Atkins, Elliott, Hogue, Montgomery, Parks, Waldron, Way and White. In 1846, perhaps before the Kinson pitch was in commission, the Kinson Cricket Club played on the ground 'liberally granted' by Sir John Guest. It was, happily, near the Webb Arms at Canford. The Kinson ground was sold in the 1930s, it is said for £500.

The Bournemouth Racecourse on the rise of Ensburry Park, now Leybourne Avenue way, was conveniently near. The company paid Queen Ann's Bounty (money instead of tithes paid to poor parishes, to Kinson one year in three). The course was partly in Kinson parish and partly in Talbot. It became the Ensburry Airfield during the First World War and was used for aero racing until 1927. The land was developed for housing in the 1930s.

Poole and Wimborne held fairs, and for those seeking culture the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge met at Wimborne.

The pond at the back of Kinson House was used for wading, tadpoling, swimming when conditions allowed in Summer and sliding in Winter. Mr. Bevan, schoolmaster, often had to round up his pupils sidetracked on the way to school and despatch them to the schoolroom. The schoolchildren teased the geese in the field opposite The Dolphin to such an extent that they were extremely ill-tempered and it was a brave villager who passed through their territory.

Rooks provided a diversion and the following account sets the rural scene in 1846: 'The rook shooting season has commenced in great earnest in this neighbourhood. On Friday a large party assembled at Mr. Elliott's farm at Cudnell and after some exciting and productive sport, spent the evening partaking of the well-known Old English hospitalities of the worthy and esteemed host.'

The rooks are now hard-put to make themselves heard above the noise of traffic, the entertainments at Bournemouth beckon a fifteen minute drive away, only a stone seat marks the site of The Pound and the cricket pitch is covered by bungalows, but we do now have an official village green.

On the blustering morning of 23rd March, 1968, there was a ceremony to celebrate the acquisition of a village green. At the instigation of the late Alderman Harry Benwell the land, the site of the old school and Liberal Club, has been drained and re-turfed. An 'Olde Englishe' sign has been set in place along with a new set of 'olde stocks' and five seats donated by interested parties. Chestnuts, silver birches, oaks and ash were planted and there was dancing round the maypole. Music for the occasion was supplied by the Oakmead School Band.

Future investigators of this ceremony will not find the records in the dusty County Archives but filed on television film.

Section 8

SMUGGLING

Many local men ostensibly employed in agriculture were glad to supplement their wages by helping to land, convey and hide smuggled goods. Smuggling was 'big business' and was carried out through the 18th and early 19th centuries. The contraband goods consisted not only of wines and spirits but also silk, lace, tea and dried fruits, i.e. raisins, figs, etc. The Landers paid farm workers ten shillings a night for helping to bring the goods ashore and stow them away. The farm wages were between 7s. 6d. and 10 shillings a week. In 1736 labourers could earn 2s. 6d. for 'tub carrying'.

These contained four gallons each and were worth 2-3 guineas. There were men who could carry three kegs, one slung in front and two behind. Human chains were formed to pass goods up the cliffs. It was not only the labourers who helped the smugglers but the gentry and clergy also (they were the chief beneficiaries) by turning a blind eye. Farmers lent teams of horses and when a 'run' or conveyance of goods inland was to be made it was arranged that drovers should drive their animals along the lanes used to obliterate traces of the run. Landings were made at the chines, clefts in the cliffs bordering Poole Bay. Existing tracks were utilised to carry the contraband inland across the heaths.

It is thought that the smugglers could have accounted for a ghost seen by the villagers and that the apparition of a young girl in white standing at the churchyard gate was more likely to have been a decoy set by the contrabandiers to discourage investigation. A Poole livery stables owned a hearse or shillibier for hire. It is said that the contrabandiers used this vehicle as a means of transporting some of their loads, and that it proceeded at a leisurely pace through towns and villages but at a brisk gallop between them. This sinister carriage drawn by black-plumed horses must have been an awesome sight to behold at dusk and one to forget quickly. This arrangement worked well until the excise men became suspicious of the number of local burials.

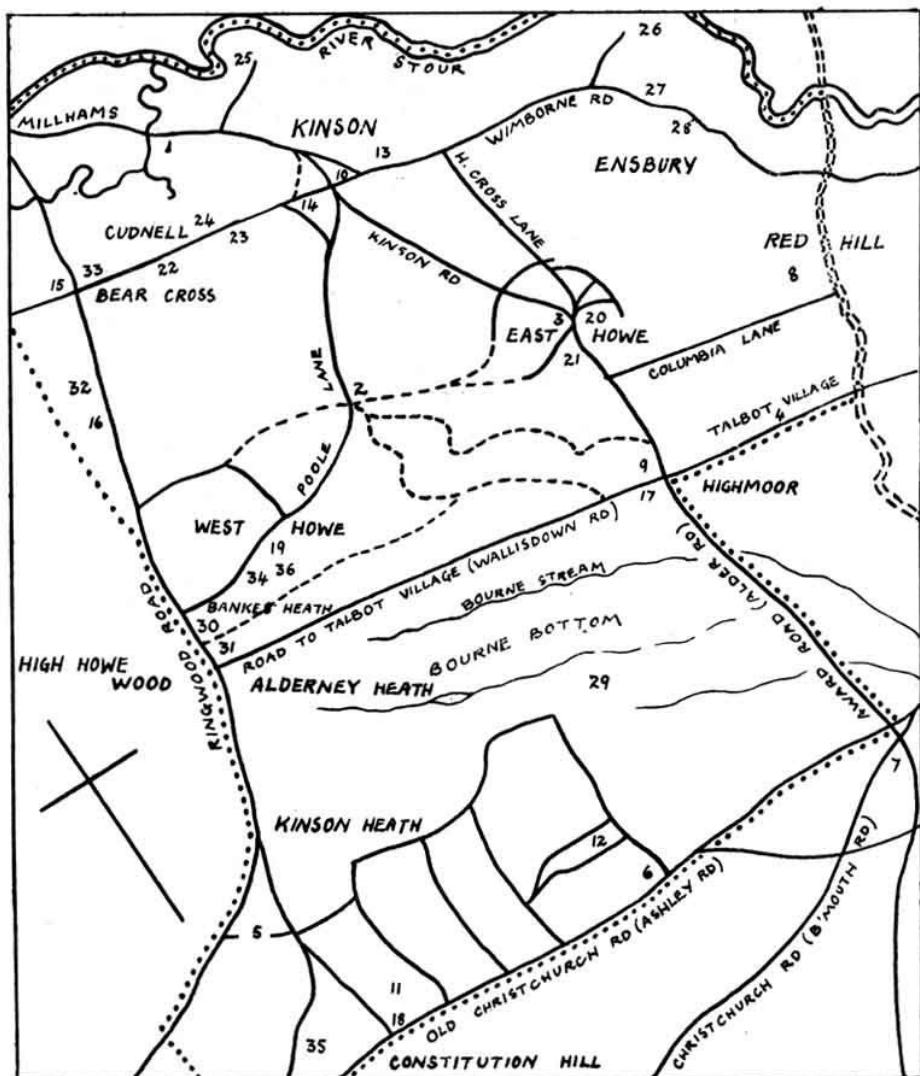
A resident of the parish had the distinction of being the baby in the following account of the 1830s. Warning was given that the Customs men were searching the village so one cottager hid an illicit keg in the wooden cradle under the baby whose mother sat rocking the pair while the cottage was searched. Mrs. Elliott, who has spent her life in and around Kinson, met the 'baby' when he was an old man. Her father knew the family.

There are many tales of smugglers' tunnels in the village but the Borough Engineer has no record of these and points out that owing to the low-lying nature of the ground they would have been impracticable if not impossible to construct. However, a local young man was taken as a boy along a system of underground tunnels. Each sizeable house seems to have had some sort of tunnel or chamber and whatever their purpose, drainage or storage, these tunnels probably started the stories. Here is Mr. Barnes' description of his journey and the tunnels:

'We first of all entered a tunnel of sorts, to the rear of the church somewhere near its foundations, from a field on the Longham side. There was quite a drop in the land level behind the church. I am not sure whether we went from here directly to the inside of the church or continued some way and then came back. I rather feel that we did come up at some point in the church or in its immediate grounds. We then went along a further length of tunnel and returned to the church. Next, we were taken to

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CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, INNS, FARMS, WELFARE, AND POTTERIES IN TEXT

Key to map on facing page

1 St. Andrew's	19 West Howe Farm
2 Old Mission	20 East Howe Farm
3 East Howe Congregational	21 Farm at East Howe
4 St. Mark's	22 Durdells Farm
5 St. Clement's	23 Pitt's Farm
6 St. John the Evangelist	24 Cudnell Farm
7 St. Joseph's	25 Kinson Farm
8 Catholic Chapel of Ease	26 Waterlane Farm
9 Methodist Chapel	27 Ensbury Farm
10 Kinson School	28 Head's Farm
11 Kinson Heath School	29 Bourne Moor Farm
12 Heatherlands School	30 Saunders Homes
13 Royal Oak Inn	31 Fever Hospital
14 The Dolphin	32 Deep Dene
15 Inn at Bear Cross	33 Elliot's Old Potteries
16 Shoulder of Mutton Inn	34 Elliot's Later Potteries
17 King's Arms Inn	35 Kinson Potteries
18 Sea View Inn	36 Kinson Steam Brickworks

Gulliver's House at Brook Road (pulled down 12 to 18 months later) and entered a tunnel there. It did not go far. We were told that it led eventually to routes to Poole and Christchurch harbour.

'The tunnels were about 3 feet 6 inches high, rounded and lined with stones in places. At intervals above were air vents showing daylight filtering down from around the edges of stone slabs which covered them. When a tunnel approached a building it widened into a small chamber.' The expedition was led by a local schoolmaster so far not traced.

We do know that landings were made at the chines, clefts in the cliffs bordering Poole Bay as it was then called. The paths and drove used to convey goods inland became the main roads of today that lead inland from the sea. .

Isaac Gulliver, the locally famous smuggler, was born in 1745 at Semington, Wiltshire, but lived in Kinson at times from the early 1780s to 1816 and owned extensive lands and properties in the village. We have the records of these and of the lands at Ensbury and Kinson, 184 acres in all, allotted to his estate under the Canford Enclosure Award of 1822 and also his Will. Accounts tell that Gulliver had a well-organised band of men, almost a retinue, working over a large part of Dorset, Hampshire, Wiltshire and even on the Continent. The Canford and Poole Heaths may be said to have been the centre of their activities and they used the old Tregonwell Arms as their meeting place. It was his boast that neither he nor his men had killed a Preventive Officer or rival free-trader. His caravan of pack horses extended for two miles and he owned three luggers. There are many stories recounted about this individual but it is sufficient to add here that he later reformed. In 1782 he took advantage of the General Amnesty granted to free-traders by George III. He sold or let his Kinson properties in order to set himself up in Teignmouth to carry on the Wine and Brandy Trade where he 'hopes for continued favours of friends and customers'. He did not seem to spend much time in Devon since he is recorded as living in Kinson and other nearby villages from this time until his death and was, in 1791, described as a Dorset Merchant. It is said that he was able to sell his wares below fair price, no doubt from stocks acquired tax free. His daughter, Elizabeth, married William Fryer, a Wimborne banker of Fryers, Andrews, Woolfrey and Co., which eventually became the National Provincial (1878). This couple had seven children, four of whom inherited lands in Kinson. His grand-daughter, Elizabeth, married into the Castleman family, also bankers of Wimborne. His son, Isaac, died early without heirs. Gulliver was a responsible family man and was able to leave £60,000 value at that time (mostly in property) to his children or in trust for his grandchildren. He died in 1822 aged seventy-seven in West Borough, Wimborne, and was buried in Wimborne Minster. His memorial stone at the centre of the nave inscribed 'Isaac Gulliver Esquire' is still distinguishable. This, however, is not the end of his story as one account, not confirmed, says that an un-savoury smell was found to issue from his tomb and so his remains were transferred to the graveyard.

Section 9

NEIGHBOURING COMMUNITIES

In the days before much travel outside one's own village, neighbouring communities were more important than now. Redhill, Ensbury, Kinson and Longham lined a section of the road from Christchurch to Wimborne (this was the original Wimborne Road) and there was regular passage between the four. Ensbury, once Eynesburgh, was the village one mile to the east of Kinson, the two now merge and the former is known as Northbourne. It is recorded that '... in 1868 seven tenants from Ensbury, a little hamlet east of the tithing of Kinson, paid 27s. 8d. to the Canford Estate'. A very small tributary of the Stour drained into a deep ditch along the main road here and crossed the road under a wooden bridge at this hamlet. It is now conduited but can be heard flowing when the traffic is quiet. Some old maps name the place Emsbury, Emsberry or Ensbury-on-Riddle. Riddle seems to have been the local name for the Stour, as we have Riddles Ford further along at Redhill. A spring situated between Garfield Road (now Saxonhurst) and Threshers Farm still surfaces in a field alongside the main road. Its waters were said to possess curative powers for diseases of the eyes. Certainly bistort, persicaria and other members of the same family used in medicine grow in abundance at its source. There are several springs on the lower slopes at Ensbury which now run under the road to the river but still give trouble by flooding. The waste land between here and the river, previously belonging to the Bankes Estate, was once farmland and withy beds.

The largest house was Ensbury Manor or Ensbury House, a house whose foundations and deeds were 700 years old. It would seem reasonable to suggest that, in the absence of an alternative, this was the manor house of Kinson. Its grounds adjoin the lands of Kinson or Manor Farm, the oldest farm in the area, and the vicarage for St. Andrew's situated in Ensbury, further east of the Manor. Against this is the fact that the farm took on the name of Manor Farm only around one century ago. The house was pulled down in 1936 but had been set back from the main road behind a screen of trees. A high white gate opened on to the drive, whose path is now followed roughly by Avebury Avenue, which led on past the house and outbuildings and eventually to the farm at Waterlane. There was no New Road. The main part of the house comprised of two late 18th-century wings of stucco-covered brick with a tiled roof and Venetian windows on the ground floor. On the third side was a Victorian addition with older parts at the back. The inside was said to be a maze of passages and an assortment of curiously-shaped rooms, and there were two staircases. The windows were shuttered on the inside and some were guarded by iron bars on the outside. Perhaps the most interesting feature was a Jacobean fireplace. It was 15 feet high,

made of oak and carved and panelled over-all in typical Jacobean style. The lower portion was flanked by two carved pillars and the part around the heavy metal fire-basket was tiled. Other items to note would have been a staircase, tiles and panelling from the hall as it is said that these, with the lawn, were bought and transported to America. I think it can be assumed that the fireplace was sent also.

The house had its share of ghosts, which included a seaman thought to be a smuggler in dripping oilskins which left no marks on the floor. Another - it is to be hoped a spectre - snatched the bedclothes from the maids' beds. There was also a locked room, perhaps connected with the noise of rustling silk and the draught of someone passing unseen. The lad whose task it was to hand-pump water up to the cistern in the roof recalls the reluctant journey up to the attics to check the progress of the water, and the helter-skelter rush down again pursued by what?

In 1868 the house was advertised as 'containing front hall, four sitting rooms, five best and six servants' bedrooms, commodious offices, stables and other premises, gardens, lawns and croquet grounds. Shooting and fishing. . .'. A farm formed part of the estate leased to others or farmed by a bailiff until separated from the estate as Waterlane Farm. There were two wells in the grounds. The house was said to have been a rendezvous for smugglers, and indeed brick-lined cavities were unearthed from beneath paving stones. These were large enough to take not only goods but men also, but perhaps served the more innocent purpose of an ice-house. Bare patches on the lawn led to the further discovery of 18-inch high brick tunnels: a house with such old foundations may well have had a long-forgotten sewage drainage system leading to the river. The 'Park', an area of trees including a giant cedar, separated the Manor from the land farmed. The rookery was in the large trees around the house. Most of these trees were cut down, but the birds have moved over to the nearest trees on either side and continue to fill the air with their raucous calls. The rookery, the cedar, the Manor's doorstep, tiles used to roof nearby houses and a selection of buried horseshoes are all that now remain. Mrs. Catherine Austin and her son, Captain Henry Hiley Austin, Clerk of the County of Dorset, owned the Manor and land near by, living there in the second half of the last century. His forebear, Charles Hiley, had owned extensive lands at Kinson until selling most to Gulliver. Henry's father, John, styled a naturalist, seems to have killed for his collection more birds than he studied live. He was a local antiquarian and excavated Purbeck barrow, his finds being in the county museum. His researches brought to light the story that many years ago, in the neighbourhood of Ensbury, a man was buried up to his neck, alive, with a guard placed until his death to prevent his rescue or relief. Austin Avenue commemorates this family. .

The house changed hands several times, the last owner being F. W. Allday the agent for the Member of Parliament, Page-Croft. One of

his employees remembers, without enthusiasm, having the job of driving Mr. Allday's pony and trap decked out in party colours and posters around the neighbouring villages.

Next to the Manor eastwards was Ensbury Vicarage built in 1785 and set back from the road amid tall trees. The mellow red-brick house had Venetian-style windows on the ground floor under a Regency canopy built across the front of the building. It was used as the vicarage for St. Andrew's until 1895 when the Reverend Arnold Sharp took up residence at Pelhams. When Brookside became the permanent vicarage the Ensbury one was let privately until the church, in 1922, finally gave up the house and it was sold. At the end of the Second War it was opened as a restaurant and a guest-house. When the grounds were altered to extend the car park a subsidence was noticed. This proved to be part of a tunnel leading from a chamber under the kitchen. The house still stands, still amid trees but now on the busy corner of New Road. It now bears the name of 'The Old Vicarage' and has been entirely re-faced.

To the south of Ensbury Manor across the main road, then a gravel track, stood another smaller 18th-century house of similar design and materials as the corresponding parts of the Manor. It is now called The Dower House, but started out as Ensbury Cottage. It was probably always the dower house to the Manor, but only received that name within the last 60 years. The house has typical six-panel doors with L-shaped hinges rivetted to them, some hand-made latches and plaster-and-reed partitions and ceilings. At the back was a bakehouse and wash-house with an open brick fire, which had a bread oven on one side and a lead copper on the other. Outside are three of the ubiquitous brick-lined cavities under stone slabs, these were probably drainage sumps but credited to smugglers in the past.

A one-time occupant added local colour by riding about inebriated on a pony, shotgun at the ready and in good voice. He had been known to man the dormer windows - his home his castle. During the last war the old house played its part, containing equipment for sending and receiving messages to and from the Continent. Its five 70 feet and 90 feet radio masts were local landmarks. This house still stands.

Next door the pretty three-gabled cottage of the same period took over the name of Ensbury Cottage when its neighbour was elevated. There were a few more cottages for the estate and farm workers which remained until the area was developed after the war. Watts Nursery Garden occupied the land between Ensbury Cottage and Thresher's Farm where we now have parades of shops. The first and only shop for a long while at Ensbury was that belonging to Davies Tarrant, farmer, baker and grocer. Mr. Tarrant was burgled in 1840, the thieves carrying off a griskin of pork, a shoulder and three sides of pork, three bladders of lard a piece of beef and a barrel of mead. This took place on December 24th! There was a shop at Ensbury from Tarrant's time onwards in a cob cottage opposite Ensbury Farm.

Farms. Behind the Ensbury Vicarage was Waterlane Farm, once part of the Ensbury Manor estate. In 1859 it was called Boat Farm because it was near the Stour, crossed at this point by a ferry (probably a rope ferry) to Parley. By 1862 it had taken on its present name and its farmhouse still stands at the end of the track which led to it from the Manor. The land farmed was on the south side of the river, mixed farming with the milk sent to Burt's Farm and Isaac's Dairies, Winton, besides being sold locally. The farm became the property of Isaac's Dairies, later Malmesbury and Parson's Dairies. Most of the land is now Council owned. Back to the main road, next to the vicarage stood Ensbury Farm, whose lands formed part of the Bankes Estate until sold before the First World War to Mr. Elliott, farmer, and subsequently taken over by the Bournemouth Corporation. Part of the ground is used for recreation purposes and part for Purification Works. The farm buildings were set back from the road and were pulled down a considerable time ago, but its two 18th-century red-brick farm cottages, built at an angle to the main road, remained until the 1950s, its thatched cowsheds for not quite so long. The open land between Boat and Ensbury Farms was marked as Ensbury Green on old maps and was owned by Gulliver. Set in Home Field opposite Ensbury Vicarage was Thresher's Farm, managed by Frederick Wareham. It consisted of three brick cottages and a barnyard with the land extending over the slope south and east. Thresher's slaughter-house was situated up a lane between the vicarage and Ensbury Farm and adjoining Water Lane, where a tanner worked, the two perhaps combining to give a little local industry. Head's Farmhouse stood, until 1971, on a rise of land towards Redhill overlooking the river, and its farmland extended south towards the present Ensbury Park on land then called Doves Hill.

Later additions to the district were Red Cottage, a large red-brick Victorian house with an orchard at the back. A gate led through farmland to Ashridge House, on a rise of land overlooking Ensbury. This was the home of Bournemouth dentist Wilson Hogue who, with Miss Ginger of Red Cottage, was a great supporter of local Methodism. Their Sunday School treats were held in one of the Ashridge fields. The last two houses have been demolished and their grounds built upon, leaving only Hogue Avenue as a reminder.

Until 1912 the only way into Bournemouth over the Stour was across Longham or Iford Bridges or over the passenger ferries. In 1908, Dr. Pringle and Mr. de Paula, representing residents mainly from Moordown, Redhill, West Parley and Hampreston affected by this inconvenience, arranged a petition for a bridge over the river at Redhill. In spite of their collecting 1,668 signatures nothing transpired. The Bournemouth and Dorset Councils were willing to co-operate but the Hampshire County Council, who would have had to finance the enterprise, declined. It was then proposed, in 1909, that the Wimborne Estate and Colonel Prideaux-Brune, Lord of the Manor of West Parley, should share the cost of a bridge

over the Stour at Ensbury. The river was narrow here. This scheme was accepted and the Bournemouth Council agreed to provide approach roads for both sides. The bridge was constructed in 1910, collapsed, and had to be rebuilt. It was taken over in 1923 by the Dorset County Council, and the New Road passing northward out of Ensbury was built up and the land bordering it built upon. We call it the New Road Bridge, although its official name is Ensbury Bridge.

In 1920, Hugh Marshall, C.M.G., built 'The Bluff', a low house on a rise of land east of Ensbury overlooking the Stour, with a view which reminded him of his beloved Nyasaland. In his youth Marshall had been an aide to Cecil Rhodes, helping to administer the newly secured Rhodesia, He was regarded by his neighbours as an eccentric, and sitting in his trophy-lined room he would regale visitors by the hour with tales of the Africa of his youth. His task, with others, had been to help resettle the African tribes at variance with each other and authority after the 'conciliatory' talks. After Rhodes' death he stayed on, rising to a position of authority and greatly admired by the natives, not always the accomplishment of the Englishman.

REDHILL

Further east from Ensbury was a small community at Redhill. Here water drained to form a pool with marsh land, before running down to a gully to join the Stour. There were a few cottages, a small 18th-century house, later brick cottages and a chapel on the bend of the road. Some of the brick houses remain. Around 1800 Keyhole Cottage was a bakery. It supplied bread to many of the people of the surrounding countryside, from Holdenhurst to Kinson and south to the few dwellings between Redhill and the coast. In 1840 John Sawyer ran a general stores in one of the cottages and Hannah Lawford was a grocer and baker there in 1851. There is a Lawford Road at Redhill now. The owner of Moorside, still standing, ran a hand laundry which was housed in a small brick building adjoining the house; two women were employed and deliveries were by bicycle. This was well into the present century, by which time tennis courts had been laid out on the high land overlooking the river which, with a tea gardens at the ferry, Riddlesford (Redylesford), made it a pleasant place to visit. The keeper of a small general stores in a nearby cottage would ferry passengers across the river for a half-penny. There was a ferry between Redhill and West Parley from early records until the 1930s. An ancient track from Parkstone across Poole Heath and Wallis Down crossed the river here and copperas (mined at 'Parkson'), fish and salt were taken inland to Cranborne or Salisbury via St. Leonard's and Horton. Cattle made the return journey along this drove.

LONGHAM

Longham was the next community along the road to the north-west of Kinson from the Stour to Holmwood. It consisted of thatched cottages, Canford Estate cottages, the 18th-century Longham House and two more modest but substantial houses of the same period - one Longham

Farm. To the extreme north is the Angel Inn and further south the White Hart, owned in 1779 by Gulliver. In 1903 the licensee of the White Hart acted as carpenter, wheelwright and undertaker. The King's Arms, to the south, does not feature in the directories of the 19th century or early 20th century. Opposite the White Hart is the combined Post Office and General Stores in a Canford cottage.

There was another line at the Post Office as the Directory shows:

1859	Miss Mary Miller	Post Receiver, shopkeeper and postmistress.
1880	Edward Miller	Postal Receiver and postmaster. Also proprietor of the Silver Star Coffee Tavern.
1890	Emma Martin	Post Receiver. Proprietor of the Silver Star Coffee Tavern.
1903	George Garland	Post Master. Coffee Tavern and Corn dealer.

Coffee Taverns were set up by Temperance Societies to counter the attractions of public houses.

A Congregational chapel, looking like one from a toy village, with its manse was built in 1841. It was financed and supported by the parish of Poole. It stands at the cross road to the north of the village. In 1899 the Richmond Hill Congregational Church took over this chapel from the Skinner Street Church, Poole. The building was in bad condition and services had been held in the schoolroom. It was renovated at a cost of £375. The school here was a National one for boys and girls.

The above houses still remain with the exception of some of the cottages. One, a 17th-century building, contained some curved beams believed to have come from Elizabethan vessels.

The Cherrett family - James in 1859 and Samuel in 1890 - had a smithy at the end of Millhams Lane and also farmed at Kinson.

Whereas Kinson was once part of Dorset but is now in Hampshire, Longham had been part of Hampshire until 1844 when a boundary adjustment put it in Dorset.

To return to Kinson from Longham one must pass over an eleven-arched bridge dating from 1728, not the first there, since one was recorded in 1687, but there did not appear to be one as late as the mid 14th century. A crossing of some kind is shown on a map of 1575 but no bridge is recorded by Leland (c.1540). On the right is the weir, part of the Longham Pumping Station which was constructed in 1885 and which supplied Bournemouth with water. It stands on the site of an old water-driven corn

mill, the attractive house of which remains hemmed-in by modern buildings belonging to the water-works. Perhaps the river at this point was the site of the mill mentioned in Domesday. It would certainly account for the name of Millhams Lane - the lane leading through low-lying meadows to a mill.

Turn from the bridge and look back across the meadows to Kinson. Let the church-rise frame your picture on the right with the little bridge over Kinson Splash in front, and to the left, beyond the trees, Manor Farm. Across the river the heights of Dudsbury, with the Iron Age fort, rise in fields and trees to the scattered dwellings crowning them. Your picture is in essence the Kinson of the past, the landscape little changed through the passage of the centuries.

Thanks to two contributors to the Evening Echo I am able to add more on the subjects of the Marshalls and Redhill.

To repeat, Hannah Lawson kept the grocery and bakery at Redhill. This was in Keyhole Cottage which was situated between the present shop at Redhill and the Kingfisher Guest House. Hannah's daughter married a Mr. Charles Marshall and lived at Kingfisher, then a private house, Regency, beautifully proportioned with a miniature portico, now completely altered. It was Charles Marshall, builder and entrepreneur, who opened the tea-gardens by the Riddlesford and ran the ferry. The Marshalls had five children, the second son, Hugh, became one of the first Government Officers in British Central Africa, served under Cecil Rhodes, opposed the Arab slave trade and became a Visiting Commissioner in Northern Rhodesia as it then was. His appointment to rule over a large part of that country for the British Crown lasted until his retirement in 1921. A street in Abercorn, Rhodesia, is named after him and his collection of Rhodesian curios and weapons is now on display in the Marshall Room, Cecil Rhodes Memorial Museum, Bishops Stortford. His papers and letters are in the Rhodes Museum, Livingstone. His widow lived to a ripe old age at Redhill.

It was Charles Marshall, Hugh's father, who with others, erected the magnificent arch in the form of a barbican gate, covered with greenery and heraldic devices. It bore the names of Albert and Alexander who were to pass through Redhill in 1890 on their way to open the Royal Victoria Hospital at its original site in Poole Road. In the event the Princess was unable to attend.

I am further indebted to Echo contributors for the following, full version of the poem commemorating the occasion when the Kaiser "dropped in" at Kinson.

The circumstances have been explained. Jess Short and Bill Hicks were two Kinson yeomen. Dr. Lamb lived nearby at Elmbrook.

- (i) There travels with Kings and
with Kaisers,
A great many noble advisers,
And they think that they know
All the best roads to go,
But they find that some roads
are surprisers.
- (ii) I am told it was somebody's
daughter,
Who advised them to go through
the water,
'Twas like Bay of Biscay,
They smelt Doctor's whisky,
So they instantly yelled for the
porter,
- (iii) When in flood 'tis no place for
a bleater,
Much less for a nobleman's
meter,
Jess Short and Bill Hicks
Did the -work of quite six,
And with others they managed
to float her.
- (iv) Dr. Lamb then appeared as
adviser,
But they soon hurried after the
Kaiser,
Most stemly they said.
As he sent them to bed-
"Naughty boys, p'haps next time
you'll be wiser."
- (v) A word or two about Hicks,
When he found the fat man in
a fix,
Without any patience,
His weight was immense,
For he weighed like a thousand
of bricks.
- (vi) I am thankful that Jess Short.
Did what an Englishman ought,
Though the water was chilly,
He worked well with Billy,
(Millhams is a dangerous port).
- (vii) Here's reference to Lamb once again,
He prescribes such good stuff for their
pain,
His excellent whiskey,
Made those Germans so frisky,
That they want to get stuck there again.

Joyce Carew in her biography refers briefly to her life at Ensbury and gives us further glimpses of domestic life in a big house.

"Our new home was Ensbury Manor, in a nice village three miles from Bournemouth. It had a rough shoot, and a few minutes' walk from the house was the River Stour, where we kept a punt and owned a mile of the fishing. We spent a lot of our time on the river, fishing for pike, perch and eels, and shooting duck and wild fowl. In 1900 the outskirts of Bournemouth was delightful, but when a few years ago I went to try and find Ensbury Manor I dismally failed, as there was nothing left of what I remembered. There were now rows of houses and bungalows, and a main road crossed the river where there had once been a ford.

When we moved to Ensbury, my brother's old governess, who had left when he went to school, came back, "Grim" (her real name was Louisa Grimaldi) was a descendant of the House of Monaco. In appearance she was very Italian, with a sallow complexion, as she was always cold. Although of foreign origin, she knew no language but English. Grim was a very dear person, and owing to my mother's affection for her, she conducted my so-called education till I was fourteen. Alas! I was fat, overgrown and insolent. She taught me little except history and literature, both of which I loved. I never succeeded in doing the simplest arithmetic, and in spite of dictation every day until I was sixteen, I never could spell, I learnt to sew at a very early age, and under Grim's supervision I made my first garment for Jessie's birthday. I can see it now, made of a very solid calico, long, with a high neck. Why women ever wore chemises on top of a vest is a mystery. Besides heavily boned stays, there were two pairs of drawers and a camisole, sometimes two.

At Ensbury, my constant companion was a girl the same age as myself, and oddly enough of the same name Joyce Coote. I vividly remember the death of Queen Victoria, and my fury and indignation when Joyce Coote appeared in church in deep mourning - a black coat and skirt, tie, hat, shoes and stockings. I was not allowed to wear black, only grey and mauve. Our ages were eight. So my mother's taste in dress for a child must have been vastly superior to Mrs. Coote's. Living in the country it can hardly have been necessary to dress a girl in such deep mourning, though throughout the length and breadth of England no other colour was worn for months after the Queen's death,

At Christmas we had a servants' party. The indoor staff were allowed to ask their young men. On one occasion a gramophone was hired from Bournemouth. They had just been invented. It had an enormous horn and funny wind cylinders which made loud and inharmonious noises. The whole party sat in complete awed silence listening to well-known songs and marches. Delicious teas made up for the entertainments, the Vicar saying grace before and after the repast. He had an untidy beard, and stuttered, so it was always a relief when the grace was short.

Once a week, sometimes twice, my mother drove to Moyles Court to see her father, the conveyance being a varnished wagonette. The journey - eleven miles there and eleven miles home - took between four and five hours. Our groom, Clark, was small in stature, with a face like a rosy apple and very merry eyes, he had a glorious sense of humour and an unending supply of old Devon stories. He would recount them to us while we cleaned harness in the cosy harness-room round a blazing fire. Besides being a groom he was a fine shot, and many happy hours have I spent with him ferreting. He always kept a good breed of ferrets, and they were so tame that any child could handle them."

The Plumtree-Cootes lived at Home Lodge. The vicar with the untidy beard must have been the Rev. Sharp who certainly sported a dense black beard.

The Bournemouth and District Milk-Passenger and Goods Service was a motor bus which ran twice daily in 1910 from Bournemouth, via Ensbury, Kinson, Longham and other stops along the Way to Corfe Mullen. It was owned by H. Newland & Co. The inside passengers were protected from the bad weather by tarpaulin curtains, upstairs, or up-steps, was open to all weathers, the driver in his open-sided cab wisely sported leather gaiters and a very long mackintosh. The tyres were solid and probably the milk too in Warm Weather.

A board on the wall of the house at 144, East Howe Lane, proclaimed it a County Police Station at the turn of the century. Shortly after this time the police house was built in Lake Road nearer the centre of the village.

Bullocks, bound for Wimborne Market, were driven through the village every Tuesday, late afternoon. They were 'lodged' overnight in the pound.