

Elsenham Village Snapshots

The Crown Inn, Elsenham circa 1938



The above picture is a hand coloured print showing the Crown in about 1938. This has been dated by reference to the cottages which at this time were all crowned with a long straw thatched roof and had leaded lattice windows. The white paling fences at this time were all immaculately painted and kept in good repair. The owner of the car and pram is unknown but as this was a post card, they were maybe put there to make the original photograph "look good".

The landlord at this time was George Haylock. A retired London policeman, he took the pub over from Charles Gray some time between 1925 and 1929.

The trees in front of The Crown were cut down in 1954 by Tom Siney, a local wood merchant who lived in Station Road. This was done at the behest of the then Landlord, John Basil Dowsing who had the pub for two years or so. The area where they were planted made way for the pavement.

When the original photo was taken, the cottage on the immediate left was occupied by a Mrs Woodcock and the two facing cottages by Mrs Dixon on the left and Mrs Watson on the right.

(Our thanks to Gordon Barker for his help)