



Merrison's Corner Shop and Post Office No 1, The Street, Brundall 1940s - 1950s

Charlie, Mr Merrison, would weigh out such items as sugar, butter, cheese, biscuits etc. all into blue 'sugar paper' or brown paper bags and greaseproof paper and put everything in your basket for you, or sometimes a brown, thick paper carrier bag if you had too much for the basket. There was no self-service and everything was entered into an account book, the bill being settled at the end of the week.

We didn't have a telephone at home and to make a call I had to go to the kiosk outside Merrison's shop, lift the receiver and ask the operator for 'trunks'. She would then ask me to insert 2 shillings or half a crown*, dial the number I had given her and if the person answered I had to press button A to go ahead with the call. If no reply, it was press button B for the money to be returned.

The Merrisons had two daughters, Elizabeth and Brenda. Brenda remembers delivering telegrams on her bicycle right through to Buckenham and Strumpshaw, and all around as well as in Brundall. Because this was during the War, the news wasn't always good.

*** NOTE:**

2 shillings (or 2/-) = 10 pence in today's money.

Half-a-crown or 2/6d = 12.5 pence in today's money

***The words and childhood memories of Angela Rowles, born 1945-1946
She moved to Brundall with her family in the early 1950s.***



Linking generations across the community through collecting, preserving and sharing information and memories about our history and heritage

www.brundallvillagehistory.org.uk



Merrison's grocery shop and post office on the corner of Station Road and The Street, c.1920s. Red public phone boxes did not come to the village until at least 1936.



Beck's Station Road Stores showing the red phone box on the left c.1965. By this time the Post Office had moved to Mr Taylor's Mace supermarket in the centre of the village.