

With grateful thanks to Brenda Francis for the following information and reminiscences:

Jim and Brenda Francis moved into the village after buying Tyndale Cottage (this was originally 2 cottages that Jack Eley had bought as agricultural cottages from the Berkeley estate) from a builder named Shipton who had converted into one house. The original two cottages were of different ages – the older one was the furthest from the road. At some point in its history the Council had widened the road and had taken a piece of the garden for a verge; the holly tree by the phone box had originally been in the garden. The phone box had originally been outside the White Hart, but was moved in the late 60's to its present position outside Tyndale Cottage.

Brenda remembers one occasion when she was running a B & B and received a phone call from someone trying to find their house; she recalls putting his mind at rest by telling him she could see him in the phone box.

Shortly after Jim & Brenda had moved into the village, Brenda's mother moved in to No.2 The Street (behind the bus stop). She bought the house from a Mrs Smith, a sister of Pat Atkins.

This house had had a chequered life. It appears to date from 1806 according to a plaque above the door, but in 1820 it appears in local records as owned by John Jortin who made it available for use as the village boys' school, which survived there for some 30 years.

In living memory it is fondly remembered as where Sergeant Midwinter ran the village police station (complete with cells) and it continued as such until the purpose built new police station was built at the bottom of the monument track.