

A bit of history...

My dad, James Ernest Homewood (aka Jimmy Homewood) and my mum, Dorothy Homewood started this business in 1946.



At first, they rented a shed behind Jesse Manns (now Coomers) and then, in 1951, they bought Pitfold Mill, Shottermill, (behind Chuter Hills garage) .

As the business grew, mum took a back seat, but my dad carried on until he died in March 1983. Mum died in 2018.

In 1972 my dad sold the Pitfold Mill site to the post office who then left it empty for 17 years before they, the post office, sold it to a developer for housing. We moved to our current site at 20 Wey Hill , which is owned by Waverley Borough Council and have been renting from them since 1972. Before we moved in, 20 Wey Hill was used by Kent and Co as a coal yard and before that I believe it was a rag and bone yard .

The photo below is from the Pitfold Mill site in 1935. It was owned by someone called Stanley Underwood. The young guy in the middle is Harold Audsley, who went on to take part in the Arctic Convoys (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arctic_convoy_of_World_War_II) and who was awarded an Arctic Star medal for bravery during those convoys. They had to wait a long time to get those medals and it was great when he came by the yard a few years ago and showed me his medal. I worked with the older guy, Bill Roe , in the late 1960s. The other "young" guy is Les Bury.



The next photo of a lorry & two guys is from early 1960s, again at Pitfold Mill, Shottermill. You can just make out Chuter Hills in the background. Standing on the lorry is Sam Gregory and on the ground is Bert Rogers. The driver (you can just see his knee!) is Frank Bonner.

