

Herefordshire Lore Age to Age

Reminiscence Newsletter

Vol. 10 Issue 1

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Comments to.

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Inside this Issue



Over here: G.I.'s in Hereford in 1940

"Your newsletter keeps the old grey cells working," declares **Dorothy Tillam.**



Over There: Jean McGaw left for Canada.



Very 1950s: the boys from the Railway Inn Skittle Team prepare to enjoy the essentials of a good coach outing. "The photo was approximately 1958 and includes my father, Bill Hick, (fourth from right), Ron Pugh, George Evans, Ivor Pontin, Frank Ralants, Frank Ward, Emrys Jones, Ted Tullugg also known as Natty Ned (kneeling centre) who was the landlord," writes by **Mr M Hick** from Bromyard.

Many of the men were railwaymen and, as a fireman himself, Mr Hicks recalls how the engine sheds were opposite the old Railway Inn in Barton Road, Hereford. "A ladder was always in place over the fence into the pub for when you finished work," explains Mr Hicks. (See also The Royal George, Snippets inside)

Keep Subscribing!

A VERY Happy New Year to you all! I have in front of me a copy of John Turner's October 2001 issue comments, in which he says, "Summer seems to pass all too quickly" I do not think that he needs restrict his definition to summer - time would be more apt.

It seems no time at all that the new team took over Herefordshire Lore; in fact it is almost a year. My role as Treasurer means that I have to maintain a constant eye on the finances of the newsletter. Publication costs are around 20 pence a

copy and we give away some 3000 copies to residential homes, tourist information centres, libraries and day centres. Age to Age has applied to both the Lottery and Herefordshire Council for funding, but we remain extremely dependent upon your subscriptions so if you are a current subscriber due for renewal or a prospective new member, then details of payment are on the back page. Please continue your support.

Harvey Payne: Treasurer



Making Plans: Sylvie Smith, Margaret Beare, Mary Blackwell and Bobbie Blackwell prepare to interview war-time munitions workers from Rotherwas. See Munitions Workers, inside.

Age To Age is the bi-monthly newsletter from Herefordshire Lore, a group formed in 1989 to collect, remember and celebrate our past.

Herefordshire Lore is Margaret Beare, Bobby Blackwell, Siriol Collins, Sam Goodwin, Eileen Klotz, Bill Laws, Elizabeth Semper O'Keefe, Harvey Payne, John Turner.

Age To Age is available free from the Hereford Town Hall, Museums and local Libraries, the Tourist Information Centre (Hereford), Herefordshire College of Technology and Age Concern (Hereford). The next issue will be out in April 2002.

Send your comments and subscriptions to:

Herefordshire Lore, P.O. Box 2, Hereford HR2 8YE

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Herefordshire Pubs

RON Shoesmith, author of *The Pubs of Hereford City*, casts doubt on our picture of the Angler Inn which once stood at 24 and 25 Union Street - now part of the Marches café in Hereford. "The photograph of the Anglers Inn on the back page of your December 2001 issue is vastly different to the one in my book. Are they really the same building?"

Our picture, from **Brian Johnson** of Putson, showed an Angler Inn with the number 25 above the door. "I remember the Anglers Inn when the landlord was Dic (?) Jones, the brother of Jack Jones, landlord at The Garrick," says **Francis Cound** from Wimborne, Dorset. Francis adds an intriguing note: "Does anyone remember Bill Philips, the milk man from Lugwardine, who was a regular at the Crown and Anchor? I recall he had an old Daimler car converted to look like a milk bottle with which he delivered the milk around Hereford. It caused quite a sensation some time before the Second World War."



Francis remembers the Bulmers Vaults too. "One of the

barmaids was Mrs Olive Wathen whose husband Arthur owned the sweet shop in King Street. Arthur and I worked together at Aeroparts Engine Company at the end of Commercial Street during the war."



"Does anyone recognise this run-down country pub?" Asks Ron Shoesmith from Wellington.

Jean Barraugh (nee Edwards) of Lower Bullingham also remembers Bulmers Vaults. "It was on the corner of Bewell Street and Widemarsh Street," she writes. "I used to help in there in the early 1960s. Down in the cellar bar we

used to serve the Bass beer straight from the barrel. The landlord and his wife were Ralph and Mary Southall."

Mrs M Matthews of Fownhope meanwhile noticed her mother-in-law, landlady at the Crown and Anchor for over 50 years in our August 2001 issue. And **Charlie Bubb** from Macclesfield recalled being surrounded by pubs. "I spent my earliest years in Eign Street by the Barrel, the Half Moon and the Three Crowns, all now gone."

Snippets

The Royal George

THE men and girl, pictured in our June and August 2001 issues outside the Royal George in Widemarsh Street - now the site of the multi-storey car park - caught the eye of **Audrey Pantall** from Oldfield Close, Leominster. "The gentleman in the middle of the front row would be my grandfather, Mr Ernest Baldwin, while the little girl in front of him is my late mother, Gertrude May. My grandparents were the landlord and lady of the George in the early 1900s," explains Audrey.

Dorothy Tillam was landlady at the Royal George half a century ago. And Christmas was always a busy time. "I started my first influx of theatrical boarders from the County Theatre when I took in a juvenile chorus of twelve, the Principal Boy, her husband and two children and also had two of the Big Chorus from the Kemble. We had to have Christmas dinner on tea plates or anything we could find - it was six weeks of great fun and mistakes." Audrey adds: "My grandparents were also landlord and land lady of the Railway Inn in Barton Road, Hereford. This became the Antelope and is now closed."

Foxley Camp

"**I**T was Dorothy Davies with son Christopher, not Eleanor Keates on our December issue front page," reports **Eleanor**

If you have any pictures of life at Foxley, we would be delighted to publish them.

YWCA

WHAT were young women doing staying at the Young Men's Christian Association (December 2001 issue)? Sorry, it was our mistake. This was of course the YWCA which stood in St Owens Street, Hereford. And it wasn't Margaret Beare in the picture, but Annie Jones and Leslie Randells.

How Smelly!

"**I**N 1944 when Mrs Pugh was Fownhope School's headmistress there were 47 pupils in her school. There was no running water, no gas or electricity, and if you think that's bad, no proper sewerage system. How smelly!"

This was Fownhope pupil Ross Lambert's view of the way things were at St Mary's 50 years ago. Ross' work was part of teacher **Clare Buck's** 1950s project at St Mary's. She writes: "A big thank you to all the readers who expressed an interest and offered artefacts - thanks for all your efforts."

Boxing Clever

Ledbury's boxing connections are recalled by Douglas Hughes from Hereford. His cousin Frank Gorin (below, right) was Midlands fly weight juvenile champion in 1930. "He fought mostly in Birmingham although he did make the occasional appearance at the old Drill Hall in Friar Street, Hereford." Frank served in the Royal Navy before running a tobacconist's in the town with his sister Violet Smith.



Frank died in a road accident in the 1960s. His father, Harold Gorin had served in the Grenadier Guards before setting up his greengrocer's business in New Street, Ledbury around 1910. A.H. Gorin is standing at the back. Seated at the front is Fred Newport of Ledbury.



Party-time: Pam Cochrane of Kentchurch Avenue, Hereford was transported back in time by the Church Street VE Day party (December 2001). "I was born in Church Street and lived there until I was 6 in 1946," writes Pam. Here's Pam again she's the little girl at the end of the table (bottom, centre). **Molly Coleman**, from Brisbane, Australia, sent the pictures. "This shows Dickie Mailes, the barber's family, the shoe repairers family, Colin Geddes and Nanny Powell from Leicester Place." Molly is attending to her son in the high chair (left).

Munitions Workers

"IN the war years it was either the forces or the factories for the girls. I had to go down to the factory - and I absolutely hated it!" This was one of the recollections from women at St Martin's Silver Threads Club when Herefordshire Lore dropped in to meet them last year. The munitions factory at Rotherwas employed over 2000 women during the last war, **Adelaide Weeks**, **Marie Wollas** and **Anne Hall** among them.

They recalled the long hours: White Shift ran from 6.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m., Blue from 2.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m., and Red from 10.00 p.m. to 6.00 a.m. And they recalled working on both the 'clean' side where bags of cordite were sewn or the 'dirty' side where the bombs were filled. Herefordshire Lore now has the unique opportunity to interview men and women who worked there and to archive their photographic records, thanks to a small grant from the South Wye Community Fund. If you worked on the munitions, why not drop us a line at Age To Age, P.O.Box 2, Hereford HR2 8YE.

Redhill Camp: Land Army girl Jean McGaw outside the Camp before Redhill Hostel was built. Jean emigrated after the war.



Over sexed and over here: American servicemen — G.I.s — saunter through High Town in the 1940s.



It's All At The Co-op:

Heather Knight from Hereford who sends us this picture of the Co-op store in St Martin's Street recalls Herefordshire's travelling shops. The late Stanley Purnell, in the centre of the picture, worked for the Co-op from the early 1950s. He took on one of the two travelling shops and delivered in the Ballingham and Holme Lacy areas. His wife Marion remembers the winter of 1962/63 when the snow was as high as Stanley's Bedford van. "I thought the Hereford shop (October's issue) was Ferris," writes **Phyllis Lyons** from Hereford. She remembered the back of the shop where customers' orders were packed. "The staff used to toss the bagged money up to the overhead office." Our picture, of course, was the Co-op in Widemarsh Street.

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Unusual View: Hereford's King Street in the days when the view of the cathedral was obscured by houses. This is just one of many fine old photographs held in the collection of Herefordshire Museum and Art Gallery.



The Castle Green Skittle Team in the 1930's or 1940's: The picture comes from Di Cox at Herefordshire College of Technology and the names are: (left to right, standing) Noel Davies, Bob Burgoyne, Fred Godsell, Sid Coal, Billy Beal and Harold King; (middle) John Burgoyne, John Hill, Reg Gardener, Bill Smith, Ted Burgoyne, ? Walker, Jim Massey, Fred Harris, ? and ? Walker; (front) Jack Burgoyne, Jack Hill, Dick Potter (landlord of the Lamb Hotel) and ? Wallis.

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