

Age To Age

Hereford Lore Reminiscence Newsletter

Also available on tape

Vol 6 Issue 5

Hereford Lore, 26 Quarry Road, Hereford HR1 1SS

October 1998

Clear 'Em Up

We are in October now and my memories return to the hop picking days. Going out to Pomona hop fields on the back of a trailer on an early, foggy morning, gathering dry sticks from under the hedge to start a fire to boil the kettle to make a smokey cup of tea. Hop flavoured sandwiches at lunchtime, eaten with relish. And enjoying every minute. Those were the days.

Care For A Coffee or a Tea?

By the way, if you want to share a few memories over a cuppa, don't forget our coffee morning at the Town Hall, October 7 at 10.00 a.m.

Tom Woolaway



The Walton sisters, Betty on the left and Lillian on the right pick hops at Leeks, Withington in the 1940s. Betty, later Mrs Rock, who was a resident at Newstead Nursing Home until her death a few months ago was a great supporter of Age To Age. Lillian Preece, who lives in Marden agreed it would be a fitting tribute to publish this picture in her memory.



Do you share memories of autumn in the hop yard? Send your recollections to Age To Age. Here, from left to right, Mrs Davis, Mrs Wright and Mrs Lerego take tea with a daughter in the Upton Court hop yard in the 1950s. Pat Williams of Putson kindly loaned us this picture.

For only £3 a year you could have Age To Age delivered to your door. Age To Age is the bi-monthly newsletter from Hereford Lore, a group of people working to collect and remember our past. Our editorial team, Edith Gammage, Roy Kennett, Bill Morris, Vi Thomas, Tom Woolaway and Jim Thomas depend on grants, donations, book sales and your subscriptions.

Age To Age is available free at the Town Hall, City and Belmont Libraries, Tourist Information Centre, Age Concern and Garrick House and many residential homes and day centres. If you want to secure your own copy, send for a subscription to Hereford Lore, 26 Quarry Road, Hereford HR1 1SS. Next issue - December 1998.

We are grateful for the support of:



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Inside: ● Herefordshire Hop Fields ● A Missing Mother ● Support Your Age To Age ● Broomy Hill Water Tower



Another picture from Pat Williams at Putson. Here Berenice Davis and Francis Lerego cuddle a hanging hop bine at the Powell's hop yard in the 1950s.



The scene is the Pomona hop yard and the families are the Shaws and the Morgans. But does anyone know the date?



Holmer school holidays allowed this youngster to do her bit in the hop fields. Eileen Edwards (now Eileen Taylor from Putson) who loaned us the picture helps to fill the crib with hops at Lyde with Marjorie Spencer and Albert Russell in September 1944. 'It wasn't a large field and the picking lasted two weeks. And even the teachers used to come as well,' writes Eileen. On the last day the farmer, Mr Pask would let us help ourselves to his apples.'

In The Herefordshire Hop Fields

Spare a thought for parents buying all those new school uniforms as their children return to school for the winter term. Many Herefordshire women remember taking their turn on the hop harvest to raise money for

school clothes and, if they were thrifty enough, saving a few extra bob for Christmas. The hop harvest brought welcome extra money and the city shopkeepers used to buy in extra stock to coincide with the piece work payments.



Taken before the first war in 1914, these hop pickers worked at Claston Farm, Dormington. Betty Moore of Putson, who loaned us the picture, was granddaughter of William Davies who owned the farm.

Snippets

Buns, butter and buskers

Mabel Pelham (nee Retallick) from Mitcheldean, remembers crossing the Victoria Bridge in 1919 to join in the festivities to celebrate the soldiers returning from the war. There was a big marquee and people were giving out drinks and food - I can still remember my sticky bun. A big gondola-shaped boat came down river covered with coloured lights and flags too. Mabel also recalls the harpist who used to sit outside Stewart's Jewellery shop in High Town and the sound of butter pats coming from the Maypole Dairy as men made up half and pounds of butter from a giant mound on the counter. She also remembers the discovery of a beautifully decorated room with a minstrel gallery at the Boot Hall pub. "Afterwards I went to one or two dances in that room. Oh happy days!"

Village Carols

Greg Unwin of Guneisen Street has just come across December's issue of Age To Age and the lady who recalled The Mistletoe Bough being sung on VE Day. What's more he's got a copy of the music. "There is an organisation called Village Carols which produces recordings and information on the carol-singing tradition and a good cassette of village carols available from, Village Carols, Bridge House, Unstone, Sheffield S18 5AF"

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Watching the Workers

Funny isn't it, how a hole in the road always pulls a crowd? These schoolboys are watching the Post Office Telephone gang drawing cables in at the bottom of Broad Street just after the last war. The foreman in his overalls is Bill Shaw.

We Need Your Support

The first issue of Age To Age hit the streets of Hereford in July 1993. Ever since then this happy band of volunteers we call Hereford Lore has continued to collect your thoughts and print your pictures of times past. Run by volunteers and entirely dependent on grants, donations and subscriptions to survive, Hereford Lore has stuck to its principle of providing Age To Age free. Hundreds of copies go to clubs for older people, to individuals at home, (on tape for people with poor eyesight). Herefordshire Council has generously supported us since we started, but their grant meets less than half our annual cost (about £4,000). And many of you have taken out a subscription that keeps our

mailing costs down.

But we need help to keep going. You could help by:

- taking out a subscription. For a minimum payment of £3 a year, you receive Age To Age every two months - and if you want to add a few pound to your subscription we won't complain!
- make a collection for Age To Age? Many clubs and homes, which receive Age To Age, make regular donations to support Hereford Lore.
- businesses and organisations can become a Friend Of Age To Age with a minimum donation of £50 a year
- charities like Comic Relief have helped us in the past, and, we hope, will help

us again in the future.

- fund raising helps. Thanks to your support, the annual coffee morning raises enough money to pay for one issue of Age To Age.
- sponsor an edition of Age To Age. In the past Hereford Amateur Operatic Society and BT have sponsored an issue of Age To Age. We could do with more help like that.

Hereford Lore has produced 30 issues of Age To Age, three booklets about Hereford's past and spoken to numerous clubs and organisations. If you'd like to help us carry on, don't hesitate to write to Age To Age at 26 Quarry Road, Hereford HR1 1SS.

A Lost Mum

lives in Belgium, but she was 12 Rogers Avenue, Hunderton, early 19... this lady, Margaret or before being adopted. Peggy, Scottish accent, worked at the factory in Rotherwas between 45 before disappearing without a... has been looking for news of 20 years. Little is known about stayed at the Holiday Fellowship. Thelma was born and, in her picture, she is wearing a... ne-shaped brooch.



able to help Thelma, even with some memories of her Catherine Whiteway on 01432 840587 or write to us at

Bill Rushton from Tipton, Staffordshire would like to hear with any memories of Foxley G.I. Camp or the Barron's Hospital, Leominster. Again, drop us a line at Age To

No, no...

Royal Army Supply Corp, but the Supply Service, who... oose, reported in our last issue.

Looking for a piano player

ne out there who would like to tinkle the ivories to enter... s at Hampton House now and again, asks Mrs P... ou can, give her a call on 01432 870287



Photographed before her marriage in 1910 to the Conservative agent, John Newton Moore in 1908, Mary Davies from Dormington poses in the donkey and trap. They were the parents of Betty Moore from Putson.

Noticeboard

More Odd Corners in Herefordshire Churches

*Slide Show by
Basil Butcher*

Friday October 16 1998,
7.30 p.m.
Friends Meeting House,
King Street.

£3 admission.

Coffee and biscuits
Phone 01432 353805
or 271343

THE COURTYARD Box Office 01432 359252

**Thurs Oct 1 - Sun 4
Bugsy Malone**

*Entertainment all the way with The
Courtyard Youth Theatre and their
and their daily splurge guns. Bugsy
Malone gets caught in the mob's
custard-pie crossfire in Alan
Parkers's play.*

£6.00 £4.50 conc.

**Tuesday Oct 6 - Sat 10
World Premier:
Shading the Crime**

By Christine Roberts
£6.50 £5.00 conc

**Fri Oct 16
The Featherstonehaughs
Draw on the Sketch Books
of Egon Schiele**

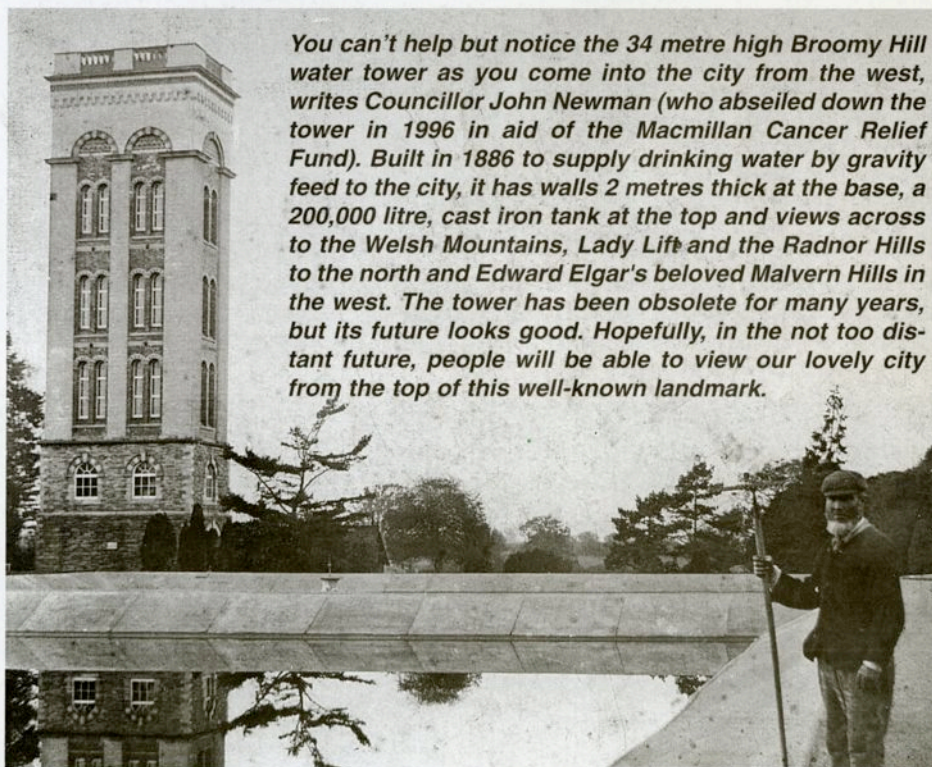
*The Unmissable contemporary dance
company translate the sketch books
of controversial, visionary Austrian
artist Egon Schiele.*

£7.00 £5.50 conc

**Wed 21 - Fri 23
Spring and Port Wine**
Middle Ground Theatre Company
£8.50 £7.00 conc £6.00 matinee



All these women, working in the accounts department at H.P.Bulmers in 1947/48 are remembered by Mrs Jean Berry. On the left from front to back are Jean Berry (Davis), Dorothy Waite, Jean Powles, Mrs Joan Cutler (Cole) - who used to cycle in from Withington, Brenda Smith (Wright), Mary Kelly (Paton), Betty Edwards (Brewer), Joan Brown, Flossie Preedy (Headon), Mary Walters - whose father had a shoe mending shop in Ryelands Street. On the right are Noleen Williams, Mrs Clinkett, Mrs Marian Masters (Bromage) and Miss Walsh who never forgot her shamrock on St Patricks Day.



You can't help but notice the 34 metre high Broomy Hill water tower as you come into the city from the west, writes Councillor John Newman (who abseiled down the tower in 1996 in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund). Built in 1886 to supply drinking water by gravity feed to the city, it has walls 2 metres thick at the base, a 200,000 litre, cast iron tank at the top and views across to the Welsh Mountains, Lady Liff and the Radnor Hills to the north and Edward Elgar's beloved Malvern Hills in the west. The tower has been obsolete for many years, but its future looks good. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, people will be able to view our lovely city from the top of this well-known landmark.

John Fletcher (great grandfather of Hereford Lore's Tom Woolaway) pictured at Broomy Hill in the last century.

Friends of Age To Age

FREESTYLE Fields Yard, Plough Lane, Hereford HR4 OEL Tel: 01432 343188 Fax: 01432 358513

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ROCKFIELD DIY Station Approach, Hereford 01432 274146 *Your Local Independent DIY Store*

IMPERIAL RESTAURANT AND BARS Widemarsh Street, Hereford 01432 273646

All our residents enjoy reading Age To Age. Wishing you continued success in the future. **Field Farm House Residential Home, Hampton Bishop, Hereford HR1 4JP (01432 273064)**