

Comments to:
Hereford Lore
26 Quarry
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Hereford Lore Reminiscence Newsletter

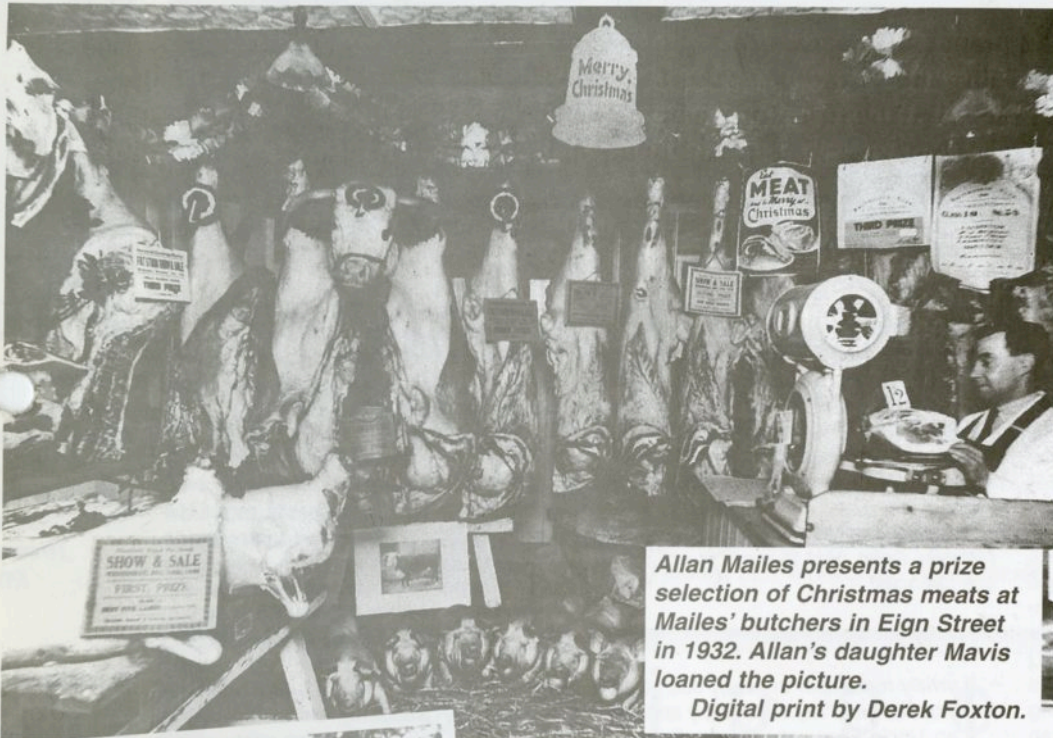
Age to Age

Vol: 7 Issue 6

December 1999

Inside this Issue

- Albert's Error
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Allan Mailes presents a prize selection of Christmas meats at Mailes' butchers in Eign Street in 1932. Allan's daughter Mavis loaned the picture.

Digital print by Derek Foxton.



John Tillam (left) and Douglas Hughes (centre) wrestle for control of the trike in 1926 at Castle Green, Hereford. In our April issue his younger brother Gerald was pictured dancing on the Green in 1935. Douglas Hughes of Wye View Villas writes to tell us more. "His father, Jack, kept a butchers shop opposite the Lamb Hotel. Gerald took over the butcher's shop, then was landlord of the Royal George in Widemarsh Street before running a guest house in Eign Road. It would be interesting to hear any news of him." Sadly, John Tillam, "one of my best friends up to the war, was shot down over Holland in 1944."

A Happy New Year

First and foremost on behalf of Hereford Lore, I wish to thank you all for the wonderful support you gave at Age To Age's recent coffee morning. Your contributions will cover the cost of one issue of Age To Age, £600 being raised.

Please keep your support going. It's vital to our existence.

The first twelve months of the new millennium will be of immense importance to Age To Age. We are always looking for sponsors and, if we fail to find them, we would have to cease production. No-one would wish this to happen.

The whole of Age To Age would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful new year.



Roy Kennett
chairman.

Age To Age is published bi-monthly by Hereford Lore, a group of people working to collect and remember our past. Our editorial team, Edith Gammage, Roy Kennett, Bill Morris, Vi Thomas, Jim Thomas, Tom Woolaway, Kit Gundy, Vera Kelly and Bill Laws, depend on grants, donations and book sales to keep going.

Age To Age is available free from the Town Hall, City Library, Belmont Library, Tourist Information Centre, Age Concern and Garrick House reception. But you can ensure your copy is posted to you, by taking out a £3 a year subscription from Hereford Lore, 26 Quarry Road, Hereford HR1 1SS. Next issue will be published in February 2000.





Marks & Spencer's Christmas party at the Imperial Hotel in 1932

Uncle Albert's Mistake

My elder daughter Kate, is having a New Year's party for family and friends at her home. She can accommodate us comfortably with regard to sleeping arrangements, writes editorial team member Vi Thomas. So different to my childhood! In 1927 my parents hosted the family Christmas party. After tea and a happy evening playing games, blindman's buff, charades, consequences, forfeits and singing around the piano, the grandmothers and the children, me included, were dispatched to bed. Early on Boxing Day, I had tooth ache and crept downstairs to cuddle up to my mother who was sleeping in an armchair. My father was also in an armchair. Two adults were asleep on the sofa, Uncle Albert and his wife Elsie were on a makeshift bed on the floor and Elsie's friend Gladys and her husband Charlie were asleep next to them. When Aunt Elsie got up to make the tea, Uncle Charlie followed to go to the toilet.

Meanwhile Uncle Albert turned over in his sleep and, thinking Gladys was his wife, cuddled up to her. There was a shout followed by a lot of laughter. The family thought it hilarious, all except poor Uncle Albert, an ex regimental sergeant major (mentioned in dispatches in 1916) who was, nevertheless, very shy with the ladies.

This year I think I'll have Loki, the golden retriever sleep next to me. I'm not taking any chances!

Such Sweet Memories

Ivividly remember the early 30s" writes Roy Kennett. "My sister Mary and I had an Uncle Clary who, every Saturday, would give us sixpence each, pocket money which seemed a lot of money in those days. As we had entered the Xmas Club at Croudaces, the grocers on the corner of Green Street and Harold Street, we would pay 3d into the Club. In the week before Xmas, excitement was growing. On

a chosen day we would visit the shop with our Contribution Club Card and select a wonderful variety of goodies to take home. The difficult part was that they were not to be consumed before Xmas!"

Sweet Music

One of our readers tells us of her Christmas days as a young girl in an Essex village. "We used to go carol singing, accompanied by a lady with an accordion, before the festivities began. We would sing our hearts out and be given apples, sweets, oranges and some pennies. But whenever we saw a bedroom window open suddenly, we always stood clear just in case something nasty came down on us."

Spanish Refugees?

When Age To Age arrives it sets off a great trend of 'I wonder what happened to so-an-so?' writes Monica Williams from Shoreham. She wonders about the Cunningham family who lived at The Poole House, Belmont Road and gave their estate to the Catholic Church. "In the '50s the Poole was used by older boys of St Francis Xavier with Mr Michael and Mr Quinn. The girls went to Lugwardine and Sister Catherine. Fr Costello came to begin a second Catholic parish south of the river.

"It reminds her of a day in the late 30s when she was in Sr Agnes' infant class. "Before we went to play we were told there would be other children in the yard and not to fuss or crowd around them. When we went out there they were: dark eyes, dark hair Foreign! Some of the bigger girls eventually taught us a skipping game: 'Istaba, laba rerra, frandi, frandango, nebagay, nebagando, frandu, frandango.' Who were they? Orphans from the Spanish war being looked after by the Sisters of Charity?" Can any reader shed any light on this? Write to us at Age To Age, 26 Quarry Road, Hereford HR1 1SS.



Not a Mrs among them. Miss Miller from Bridstow sent us this picture of Hereford High School staff in 1935- 36. Back row Miss Stokes, Miss Bellamy, Miss Harwood, Miss Jones, Miss Irving. Seated: Miss Muller, Miss Thornicroft, Miss Lord, Miss Medwin, Miss Cunningham, Miss Major, Miss Greaves. Front: Miss LaBrody, Miss Armstrong, Miss Holland.

All S



**Mumbl... 1949
outing for egg p...
Barrs Court Roa...
Waite, Nesta...
Sylvester, Janet...
Smith, Olive...
Thomas and...
Photo: D...**

Eclipsed By The Wa

Memories of t... come to us from Beryl Reece. At least, she thinks it is. I remember it as the because of the amaz... and that's what we "we lived in one of Grandstand Road, two downstairs, one was and one on a lavatory neighbours at No. 56 in 58, Mr and Mrs Hoc and daughters Queen was a good friend to born in 1912 with or could always fight Leslie would fight with who bullied him.) "I remember going into the lavatories to meet It was very dark and Hilda and I were frightened in school and I to be my friend again to end! We cried the hugging each other and quarrel again. We kept years, but moving away World War parted us. The family moved in Beryl's father who was master at St Mary's C... ager of W & E Turners



9 and annual
backing staff from
ad. They are Jean
Jones, Sylvia
Wheeler, Tommy
Williams, Joan
and Joan Smith.
Don Ratty.



Ann Phillips loaned us this photo of Holy Trinity Church choir in 1950 with Rev. L.J.B. Snell, mayor of Hereford, in the centre.



Christmas Books



Then & Now No 3. By Derek Foxton. £14.95 from Waterstones, W.H.Smith and the Tourist Information Centre.

An Ornament of the City - 125 years of Hereford Free Library and Museum. From the Museum Shop, SPCK Books Shop and Waterstones.

The Schoolchildren's Tale, produced by Hereford Lore. Price £2.50 from Tourist Information Centre and Hereford Museum Shop.

Herefordshire Constabulary, 1857 - 1967, a pictorial history compiled by Vera Hadley, researched by G.E.Forrest and E.A.Hadley. £11.95 plus £2 postage from E.V.Hadley, 225 Whitecross Road, Hereford (01432 265380)

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S n i p p e t s

Right Fire - Wrong House

"The house shown after the disastrous fire on your front page is actually Vennwood near Bodenham. It happened in April 1907 and the photograph is one of a pair in the book Bodenham In Camera by Anthea Brian (Quotes Ltd 1986)", writes Stuart Webb from Bodenham

Symonds The Blacksmiths

Roy Kennett and Vi Thomas enjoyed talking about Age To Age with Holmer W I recently. One member, Mrs Hammond, talked about her father, Fred Symonds and his brother, Percy, well known blacksmiths during the 1930s who were also busy shoeing horses.

Shaggy Dog Story?

"Remember the black and white dog who was made honorary member of the ABC Minors' Club in the 1950s?", asks Bob Birch. "It seems that the dog - was he called Patch? - was presented with a badge to wear on his collar"

Before Beeching's Axe

Martin Morris from Ross recalls singing with St Mary's Church Choir at the cathedral in

1937 In those days, with most of the county covered by a rail service, their choirmaster, Mr Parsons, scorned buses and always travelled by train. Unfortunately, while the men caught the return train to Ross after the service, the choir boys missed it and a bus had to be laid on for them to return.

Notes From Down Under

"I met up with George Coleman from Brisbane while on holiday with more Hereford friends", writes Dot Davies. "We talked Of Age To Age and agreed there are many more ex Herefordians all over the world who look forward to getting their copy. Bless you all"

On the subject of compliments, here are a few more: "Super little publication," "an inspired idea which gives such pleasure to so many" and "I love having them." Well, thank you too.

Stunning Sum

Congratulation to Betty Stevens and daughter Val. To date they have collected £1,006 for St Michael's Hospice at St Francis Ladies Club in Newton Farm.

NOTICEBOARD

HEREFORD AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY

Friday 17th and Saturday 18th December 1999
at The Clubroom, Whitecross Road

SHOWCASE

+ Potted Pantomime + Carols

To be performed by Youth Group Members
at 7.30p.m.

Price £4.00 to include mince pies

Another classic for Spring 2000

SOUTH PACIFIC

Friday 5th May to Saturday 13th May
at the Courtyard

For further information on any of the events
contact George Powell on (01432) 820601
We are also on the lookout for new members.

Auditions to join the company of
South Pacific
will be in January 2000

DON'T THINK - DO IT

or find us on our website - www.haos.co.uk

Special thanks to the various trades people who gave a wonderful variety of gifts for Age To Age's recent coffee morning, in particular Rockfield D.I.Y., Sainsbury's, Boots, Bay Horse Inn, Imperial Restaurant, Chadds, Rutter, Hatterhall Therapy Centre and all those individual gifts from friends.

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Betty Hankins of Queensway loaned us this fetching photograph of herself as 17 year old Betty Morris in the 1932 Carnival.

And watch out for the Hereford Times' Millennium issue which Hereford Lore is helping to research.

Country Life In An Ashperton Cottage

John Hosie from Glasgow continues his evocative account of a childhood holiday in Ashperton. It is the 1930s and city boy John has arrived from Glasgow to spend the summer with his grandmother

"Two families occupied the cottage. My grandfather, who had died before I was born, had been a farm labourer and, except for Uncle Albert, who worked on the farm, their four sons and five daughters had left to work away"

"A fancy oil lamp burned on the parlour table and geraniums bloomed on the window sill. Water boiled in the blackened kettle hung from a hook over the wood fire which also heated the adjoining oven. Drinking water came from a pump at the front door and I was given the job of keeping the two buckets, kept in the kitchen, filled. There was a dry lavatory away from the cottage"

"Milk from Bailey's farm arrived around 11.00 and any milk left

after supper had to be scalded. When you poured it into your tea at breakfast, white particles would remain on the surface"

"Miss Gibbons from Canon Frome post office brought the mail on her bicycle. Her uniform included a funny hat and I had a job keeping a straight face when she arrived with letters from the family or my weekly Playbox comic from my father. If you had letters to post, you went up the road with them at 4.00 p.m. and the postman on his motorcycle would take them from you without stopping"

"Two bakers, Watkins and Tuck, came with bread and meat. Richardson's at Little Tarrington, Mr Bebbington, grocer and corn merchant in Ledbury, came once a month with groceries and corn for the fowls in his pony and trap. Granny always made him tea and served him with a slice of home made cake. They would converse for a while and I heard her say he always left a sixpence under his plate. The country folk were real characters"