

# Herefordshire Lore

# Age to Age

## Reminiscence Newsletter

Vol: 9 Issue 3

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### Inside this Issue



**Vowchuch Common:** Farming memories. Inside pages.



**Queen Elizabeth's Coronation Day:** Street Party at Whitehorse Square?

**"Welcome to Herefordshire Lore and many thanks to Messrs Kennett, Morris, Woolaway and Co. Age To Age is greatly appreciated," writes Mr A.R. Willis from Hereford.**



**Vine Inn:** Looking like an advertisement for Craven A Full Strength cigarettes, customers from the Vine Inn in Blueschool Street line up for the photographer. This could be the 1930s. What's it all about? If you can help, write to us at Age To Age. (Photograph: Mrs A Lynes, Hereford.)

## A Warm Welcome!

**W**ELCOME to the first issue of Age to Age produced by the new editorial up. It seems appropriate here to let you know some of our plans for the future. The first you may already have noticed, the change from Hereford Lore to Herefordshire Lore. This reflects our wish to broaden the range of Age To Age to include reminiscences from people living throughout the county whether they are town or country dwellers. If you have any recollections of growing up and living in our county please pass them on to us at the usual address. We are also looking to increase the places where you can get your Age to Age. We hope that from this issue onwards the newsletter will be available in all the libraries in the county. We also hope to send each issue out to doctors' surgeries and possibly local Post Offices. Age To Age is also available on tape.

We are also in the process of developing a presence on the internet.

We have registered our website — [www.herefordshirelore.org.uk](http://www.herefordshirelore.org.uk) — and we are in the process of designing the site. More of this next time

Finally, we continue to receive photographs and your reminiscences at an incredible rate so if you have sent us material we will do our best to include it in future issues. Don't forget you can send your material to us at our usual address or by e-mail to [john.herefordlore@btinternet.com](mailto:john.herefordlore@btinternet.com)

**John Turner, Chairman**



**Life in the Land Army:** Did you work alongside the girls. Back page.

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

Age To Age is available free from Hereford Town Hall, Museums, local Libraries, the Tourist Information Centre (Hereford), Herefordshire Technology College and Age Concern (Hereford). The next issue will be out in August 2001.

Send your comments and subscriptions to:  
**Herefordshire Lore,**  
P.O. Box 2  
Hereford



HEREFORDSHIRE  
COUNCIL





**Floody Hell:** If you thought last winter's floods were bad, you should have seen it in 1947 recalls **Douglas Hughes** of Wye Villas who loaned this picture of residents receiving flood relief gifts from America. The exercise was overseen by Lady Cotterell. One feature of that dreadful winter's weather was the extension of the football season, Doug remembers. "I was at Molineux in 'flaming June' when, with hundreds in the capacity crowd overcome by the heat, Liverpool defeated the Wolves by 2-1 to take the Division 1 title."

## Household Tips

**I**NDISPENSABLE household tips are on offer from a copy of the Wye Bridge News, 1971, sent in by **Mrs P. Lyons** of St Barnabas Close.

### Housewives' Week

**Monday Washing** — When washing kid gloves, first wash with good soap and then rinse in clear warm water to which has been added a few drops of olive oil.

**Tuesday** — Sewing. For material which frays easily, rub the scissors with a wax candle.

**Wednesday** — First aid. To apply a hot poultice first smear some olive oil on the skin. It will avoid a red mark.

**Thursday** — Cooking. A little cornflour dredged over the top of a cake which has to be iced will stop the icing spreading and give a smoother and more attractive appearance.

**Friday** — Household. To clean brass ornaments first rub with a cut lemon dipped in cooking salt. Rinse well, in lukewarm water, dry and polish.

**Saturday** — Children. If a small child is restless in bed, try turning the pillow on to the cool side. This can induce sleep.

*(If you have any handy tips to pass on, drop us a line at Age To Age).*

## Rudolph Hess Stops By For A Smoke

**T**HE night Rudolf Hess came to Hereford is remembered by **Angela Francis** of Sutton St Nicholas. Hess, third in command of Adolph Hitler's war time cabinet mysteriously flew to Scotland in 1941 at the height of World War II claiming to be on a peace mission to Britain. Hess spent the remaining years of the war at Abergavenny. In 1987 he committed suicide at Spandau Prison, Berlin. But Angela spotted him on the night of his transfer from Scotland. Angela was working at Hartley's factory near what was the military airport at Madley. "Hess got off a plane for a cigarette. He was guarded by four or five guards who then put him back on the plane."

"No-one remembers us at the factory at Webton Court, Madley," she complains. "We would do all the men's work, unload great big lorries all day and then be expected to work on at 6.00 p.m. till 11 p.m. Often we had to walk home at night in the ice and snow."

Busy though they were, the girls managed the occasional laugh as Angela's battered picture ("Bubbles, Chris, myself and Jean") shows.



**Anyone Remember?** A crowd draws up outside the Royal George in Widemarsh Street, Hereford. But where was the George?

## Keep In Touch

- All the material published in Age To Age comes from you, our readers. One of our editorial group, Margaret Beare, wants to know what you would like to read? Have we got the balance right? Would you like more special features? The May Fair, Herefordshire Gardens, Farm Work, the Hop Harvest, Trains and Buses, for example.
- Talking Heads. Over the years many Herefordshire groups enjoyed talks from our editorial team, Roy, Vi, Tom and Bill. Bobbie Blackwell and Geof Boucher, two of our new team, want to revive those excellent talks. If your group is looking for an entertaining afternoon or evening, get in touch with us as soon as possible.



## Vowchurch Common And Newton Farm

HEREFORDSHIRE, despite all the troubles suffered by farmers in recent years, remains an agricultural community. And there are plenty of farming memories to be enjoyed. Mr A.J. Preece of Victoria Park, for example, remembers his stepfather Tom Lloyd (below), who worked the fields of Newton Farm for 40 years. C.H. Davies of Marden, meanwhile, sends her (his?) recollections of pre-war Vowchurch Common. The cornfield belonged to farmer Pearce of



Vowchurch Court (followed by Eckley in the 1930s) Arthur Davies lived at Black and White House across Vowchurch churchyard then moved to Peritone Poston up through the woods.

"I lived there 1928 - 1936. I had a two and a half-mile walk to school. In the winter dark, getting home in the days of the Cooks of St Margarets and Luthers, Rucks of Vowchurch Common, the Wildings of Turnastone. We used to run to Turnastone to see Mr Trafford landing his Tiger Moth aeroplane in the meadow by the Wildings to refuel with Pratts Petrol."



## Snippets

### Foxley Camp

BILL Rushton, writing from Tipton in the West Midlands, is interested to see Foxley Camp featured again (in our last issue). "I have been trying to get photographs of camps in this area," he says, having been at Bradbury Lines when he was with the R.A.M.C.

### Vaga Darts

IT was interesting to see the Vaga Darts Team in our last issue, says Mrs M Silcox from Web Tree Avenue, Hereford. "My father, Fred Harper is second right on the back row and my father in law, Bill Silcox, the captain, is third from the left on the front row, both men looking very smart in their collars and ties."

### The Man Who Would Be King

ANTHONY Hall (February 2001 issue) died in the General Hospital, most probably transferred from Burghill as it was then known, writes Charmian Hill from Pershore who, as a probationer on night duty, nursed him at the end.

Mr R.J. South from Manor Road, Putson was given one of the currency notes issued by Anthony Hall. However, writes Mr South, it's not for £1 but for 1 dollar.

### Dinner At The Ritz!

THAT photograph of the Vincent Greenhous staff dinner (February 2001 issue), was taken in the circular café of the Ritz in Commercial Road, says Mr A.R. Willis from Oatfield Close, Hereford.

Mr Willis also offers a little more information on how The Old Contemptibles earned their name (April 2001 issue). "After the outbreak of war in August 1914, the first British army, being hastily assembled, was quite small. When the German Leader, Kaiser Wilhelm II learned of this he called it 'the contemptible little British army'. The name stuck." (Douglas Hughes of Wye View Villas, Hereford suggests it came from 'General French's contemptible little army').

Mr Willis thinks a military march was composed in their honour. "Perhaps there is a reader who could comment on this?" If there is, please drop us a line at Age To Age, PO Box 2, Hereford HR2 8YE

### The Woods Family

BARBARA Bowen, once Barbara Wood, writes from Brisbane, Australia wondering if that really was her father, Reginald Wood, pictured in last August's issue of the Newton Football Club. (It was indeed. Contributor Molly Wood wrote in the following month that Reg Gilbert and George Wood were all in the picture together with strikingly named Bodger Hodges.)

Barbara would love to hear any anecdotes about her father's family. "Dad was born in 1911 at Much Cowarne, the son of Florence (nee Bullock) and Albert Wood. For many years they lived at Foley House, Foley Street, Hereford and traded as A.J. Wood and Sons, Builders. Both my parents died here in Brisbane in 1982 and like so many children, I thought Mum and Dad would be around for ever so never thought to ask for relevant details." If you can help Barbara, write to her c/o Age To Age, PO Box 2, Hereford HR2 8YE

### Stationary Memories

WHILE the future of seven Council-owned residential Homes hangs in the balance, Age To Age received this picture from one of the Homes, Orchard House during refurbishment some years ago. The five indistinct railway men pose on the platform of the long closed Holme Lacy station. Do you know anyone who worked there?





# Age To Age- From Door To Door

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**Coronation Day:** The youngsters, all in their Corona Coronation cardboard caps, celebrate Queen Elizabeth's succession to the throne. We think the party was at Whitehorse Square, but we don't know because we don't know who sent us the picture. Write and tell us at Age To Age.

## Life In The Land Army

**W**HAT kind of a war did you have? **Bobbie Blackwell** from Hunderton has been talking to some ex Land Army girls. And she has discovered that life on the land was not always as wonderful as the books and films suggest. "Young women often found themselves in remote and isolated places, working very hard and for little reward," says Bobbie, who is trying to compile a more honest picture of life in the Land Army. Were you in the Land Army? Did you work alongside the Land Army girls? Drop Bobbie a line at PO Box 2, Hereford HR2 8YE.



**Land Army:** Doris Hayes, Eve Lichfield and Jean McGaw outside Redhill Hostel in the 1940s.

**"They were  
the best  
days of  
my life"**

**Eaton Bishop:** It's the boys and girls of Eaton Bishop School. But when was it taken? And whom does the picture belong to? Can you shed any light on the matter?



## Friends of Age To Age

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