

Herefordshire Lore

# Age to Age

Reminiscence Newsletter

Vol 9 Issue 6

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Comments to:

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## Inside this Issue



*Can I Help You? It's The Co-op.*

*"As Herefordians we find Age To Age very interesting," writes Miss B.J. Dock from Westfaling Street, Hereford.*



*Eleanor Keates at Foxley Camp.*



*Church Street: Food shortages caused by rationing were overcome for this VE Day street party in the time honoured fashion of everyone clubbing together. Molly and George Coleman from Brisbane sent the picture. "To the right of a photo of Sir Winston Churchill is Tich Rowberry, licensee of the Litchfield Vaults. The gentleman wearing a suit and tie in the centre is the tailor from East Street. And the girl with a baby in a high chair is myself and son."*

## Seasons Greetings

HELLO again to everyone. Remember, in last December's issue, Roy Kennett announced the planned retirement of the old team and the arrival of a new? This is our new team's first Christmas and you have, over the last few months, provided some more fascinating reminiscences.

There was a huge response to both August's 'Spot the Pub' teaser and October's Mystery 1950s shop (see inside) Lots of interesting photos have also been arriving from you, some from as far afield as Australia, of war time in Hereford and the shire. In a future issue we would be interested to hear from people with any memories and experiences of the Rotherwas munitions factory. All your reminiscences and photos will (with your permission of course) be archived, and become part of the county's personal history.

For now though, we wish you, 'Seasons Greetings' and a big thank you for your support and patience during these changes over the previous months at Herefordshire Lore.

**Bobbie Blackwell**

## Tile Works

Tom Smart is the only identified person in this picture of a worker's break at the Holmer Tile works. "I wonder if anyone can tell us anymore about the picture?" asks **G. L. Roberts** of Belmont.



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, Sirlol 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 February 2002.

Send your comments and subscriptions to:

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





# Searching For Her Mother

**T**HELMA P. P. Verhulst, born in January 1943, has written to us from her home in Belgium. She always knew she had been adopted, but in her early twenties, her step mother, Phyllis Mabel Probert (nee Davies), told her that she was born in England.

Phyllis never revealed anything about the adoption. However, when she died, Thelma discovered that her birth mother was called Margaret or Peggy Clark(e) and that she came from somewhere in Scotland. She worked at the Rotherwas Munitions Factory, where Phyllis also worked before moving to Belgium with Thelma in 1946. Margaret Clark stayed at Redhill Hostel attached to the factory. When she was pregnant, she left the factory and moved in with a colleague at Rogers Avenue, Hunderton. Thelma is one of many war babies.

**Carole Reagan** has also contacted Age To Age. During the war, her father, Neal Wilson Reagan was stationed at Kington Medical Base. There he met a woman called Peggy Barker (also known as Margaret Clark). She had twins and lived at Newman House in Leominster. Peggy and Neal Reagan had a daughter called Carol



**Thelma Verhulst:** Contacted Age To Age.

Ann. Could Carol Ann be Thelma's half sister? If you can help Thelma or Carole, please contact Age To Age.

**Julie Lachaud**

**Tony Blackburn** from Stratford is looking for information on his wife's relatives and the descendents of James & Charlotte Powell (nee Williams) who lived in Madley around 1830. Known offspring were sons Thomas, born 1832 and William born 1835.

Any information please to:

Tony Blackburn, 2, Blackthorn Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6TD. Tel. 01789 296342



*Is this Margaret Clark, the munitions worker?*

## Snippets

### Vine Inn

**O**UR June 2001 issue of the Vine Inn, Hereford showed a picture of Mrs Beatrice Tyler, the lady with the cigarette and, next to her, her son, Bill, writes **Maureen Gilbert** from Llancloudy.



### Lugg Landing

**M**ELVIN Angel from Putson was a young lad (top right, back row) when a Bristol Blenheim fighter bomber landed on the Lugg Meadows in 1939. He told Age To Age's **Margaret Beare** how the 'plane's portside propeller was damaged during an attempted takeoff. Soldiers billeted at Lugwardine Court stood guard over the plane until it could be taken away by a Queen Mary transporter.

### Lugwardine Football Club

**K**EN HYETT who discovered Age To Age during a visit to Cheltenham, provided a comprehensive caption to our picture of Lugwardine Football Club (August 2001 issue) "In the front row is Brian Cutler, Trevor Burland (captain), Ken Hursey (who lost his family in the bombing raid on Rotherwas and later joined Hereford Constabulary — as I did in 1952 — and played football for the force). Next is Bill Boucher (he married the girl in the white jumper in the back row). Owen Jones, seated next to Bill, worked at Chadds for many years. On the left of the goalkeeper, behind Ken Hursey, is Johnnie Williams who worked at Morgan and Friend, Edgar Street (later British Road Services).

"One player not pictured is Dennis Small who, upon being discharged from the RAF, worked with me at Ratcliffe (Hereford) before training as a teacher and going to Newton Abbot."

**George Coleman** from Australia identified Ron Jones, Ken Wythe and Ted Powell. **Peter Morris** from Hampton Park not only remembers the team (the goalie, he says, was Freddie Woodhouse), he also remembers all the players in the Railway Team, who played Sunday afternoons on Widemarsh Common.



### Remember The YMCA?

**M**MARGARET BEARE (right) at the Old YWCA in St. Owens Street in 1976. Did you stay there? Let us know at Age To Age.

### Land Army Girls

**M**AUREEN GILBERT from Llancloudy sent us this picture of three land girls who lodged at her parents' home in Bullinghope. "My father, Roy Lloyds, worked at Greencrize nurseries growing tomatoes, and Joyce and Winnie worked with him. Joyce married a GI and lives in New York. Winnie's home was in Halifax. I don't remember who the one in the middle was." Maureen adds that the four land army girls who lodged with them all slept in a single bed, two at the top and two at the bottom!







**Foxley Camp:** Ginny Carrington's appeal for more news of the temporary war time accommodation at Foxley Camp prompted **Colin Keates** from Shrewsbury to send in some of his mother's photographs. "We lived in the end unit of the block shown in the background and, as our home was fairly central, the Council modified our living room window so that the room could be used

# Foxley Camp



as a rent office. One of the Council staff used to come for the day, once a week, to receive rents!"

Mr Keates senior is now 97 "He worked on the railways and had to cycle to and from Hereford most days in all weather. A possible cause of his longevity," suggests Colin.



## No Mystery There

THERE was no mystery behind the mystery shop, writes **Ann Morgan** of Ferrers Street, Hereford. This was the Co-op in Widemarsh Street where Corals betting shop is now. "I worked in the offices which were next door, and above, where Neil Powell the butchers are."

**Heather Knight** of Barricombe Drive, Hereford worked there too. "I was born in Widemarsh Street, next door to All Saints School in 1940 and I started work at the Co-op in 1954 in the greengrocery department." In those days she was Miss Bigglestone. Heather recalls the cafe next door to her department, her boss Brian Marchant and Sam Appleby in the shoe shop. She even remembers her mum's dividend number — 698. **Maureen Gilbert** recalls the Co-op when it was on the Wye Bridge. The manager was Mr Harrison and Marion, who also worked there, was pictured in *Floody Hell* (June 2001), writes Maureen. Her mother's Co-op groceries used to be delivered by George Bowley.

New subscriber **Valerie Hughes** of Garrick Avenue knew the shop well. "I've been married to the handsome young man — Percy Hughes — for over 40 years. Also in your picture are Winnie Jones and Doreen James. The lady on the cash desk window on the right is Daphne Preece who later married Hereford policeman Bob Taylor. And the manager at the time was my uncle Ernest Ellis."

**Connie Daw** of Marshall Close, believes the girl in the dark overalls is herself, Connie Griffiths as she was then.

**Norman J Owen** of Stanhope Street who worked here in 1957 (and at other branches until 1964), loaned us the pictures. "The picture in your October issue and the one of the front page were taken before the shop was modernised."



*The Co-op, after modernisation.*





*Then and now: Esther Townsend from Bridstow sent us this family photograph (left). Taken at New Mills Farm in 1929 it shows her father Bill with his six brothers and sisters and his parents, Tom and Edith. Below, the family today.*



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## Angler Inn

MR Hockaday's Wines and Spirits, taken some time in the 1890s, this photograph from **Brian Johnson** of Putson shows a barrel of beer about to leave the Angler Inn and Brewery. "It offers an interesting comparison with your photo of the Anglers Inn, Union Street, published in the August issue," suggests Brian.

Yet more readers have responded to our request for information about the Anglers Inn, as it became later. The horse in the picture was either Duke or Prince, the driver was Ben Witherstone, the horse retired in 1961 and the pub was in Union Street, writes **John H. F. Davies**. **G.J. Jones** of Little Birch and **Mrs Pounds** of Ross Road wrote in too. During the war the landlord was Mr Oliver and the part-time barmaid was Elsie Kennett — later to become Mrs Pounds!



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