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**Date** 1942  
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3 January 1942

## EVACUEES' CHRISTMAS PARTY AT KNARESBOROUGH

10 Mothers and children evacuated to Knaresborough from various parts of the country which have experienced heavy bombing were the guests of the local Evacuees' Welfare Committee at Christmas party held at King James's Grammar School on Saturday. The affair went with a swing, and the enjoyment of the guests may be gauged by the remark of one young evacuee towards the close of the proceedings that the party "adn't arf bin fun."

20 Tea, served by Girl Guides and members of the school staff, was provided for a company of about 150, the spread including sandwiches, sausage rolls, cakes, jam tarts, mince pies and jellies. Crackers and paper hats were much in evidence. After tea, there were games and dancing in the gymnasium, and at the interval Coun. Mrs J. Taylor chairman of the Welfare Committee, presented toys to the young children and sixpences to the older ones. Mr G. Heapy, of the Merchant Service, entertained the company with conjuring and ventriloquism. Miss Ruth Godfrey was the piano for games and  
community singing, and dance music was played by W. Wolde (piano), F. Swires (piano accordion), and R. Bousefield (drums).

Among those present were Mrs Taylor, Mr A. S. Robinson, chairman of the Evacuation Committee, and Mrs Robinson, Mrs D. F. Dobson, W.V.S., Mrs. M. Smith, chief billeting officer, Coun. And Mrs J. B. Topham, Miss P. Topham, Mr H. B. Holgate, Rev. And Mrs S. Hulton, Miss Toten, Capt. And Mrs J. Fairclough, Mr and Mrs R. c. Cox, Miss D. Arnold, and Mrs W. Pymm. The games were organised by Miss Arnold.

Knaresborough Post

10 January 1942

30 **N.F.U. Treasurer.** – At the annual meeting in Leeds on Friday of the West Riding Farmers' Union, County Coun. E. Alton, of Scriven Lodge, Knaresborough, was re-elected treasurer. Mr Alton's work for agriculture in this district was recognised by the local branch of the N.F.U. on Wednesday, when he was made an honorary life member.

**17 January 1942**

## **Air Raid Precautions**

No great change occurred in the medical arrangements. Considerable improvements were, however, made in the first aid post and a mortuary for 20 cases was provided.

Two hostels, provided by the Ministry of Health, were kept in being, one for skin diseases and one for minor illnesses. These were largely used as billets at first, but it became clear later that it would be necessary to reserve them for their original purposes.

10

## **HEALTH OF KNARESBOROUGH**

### **Medical Officer's Report**

The following report on the health of Knaresborough in the year ended December 31<sup>st</sup> 1940, has been submitted to the Urban Council by the Medical officer of Health, Dr D. F. Dobson:-

"The Registrar General's estimate of the resident population is 7,596. There are also in the town a number of evacuated persons and workers who have come to the district. The number of people living in Knaresborough is estimated at 8,500.

### **Evacuees**

Most of the unaccompanied children returned to their homes during the year. A small number remain. A fluctuating number of parents and children are billeted in the town, usually about 230.

20 Reception has been accompanied by a considerable amount of overcrowding and by the use of many houses which are not in every respect fit for human habitation. Every effort has been made to abate overcrowding without resort to compulsory orders, and much work has been done to improve the houses in question.

**Knaresborough Post**

**31 January 1942**

**Not a "Village."** – Reference was made in these notes recently to a picture of Knaresborough which appeared in a copy of the "Egyptian Mail," Cairo, sent home by a local soldier. The picture had the caption, "An English Village," and another copy of the paper which has reached Knaresborough indicates that a second Knaresborian has taken the Editor gently to task for the description of the Castle town as a village.

10 **"Great Seeing the Old Town."** – Leading Aircraftman J. Aldous, only son of Mrs Aldous, "Friar-Dene," Scriven Road, serving with the R.A.F. in the Middle East, has written to the Editor pointing out that Knaresborough is no village, but a "market town of considerable size and importance, particularly as an inland resort, noted for its natural beauty and historical interest and remains." Aircraftman Aldous ends his letter, "It was great seeing the old town in your paper."

**Knaresborough Post**

**14 February 1942**

**MIDSON-JEPSON**

The wedding took place at the Baptist Church, on Monday, of Pte. Harold John Midson, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Midson of 97 Knaresborough Road, Harrogate, and Miss Isobel Olive Jepson, of 81 Boroughbridge Road, Knaresbolrough.

20 The Rev. A. W. Skeens (Vicar) officiated.

Given away by her father, the bride was dressed in a queen's blue costume and hat to match.

Mr Norris Taylor was best man, and the groomsmen were Mr Frank Denison and Mr Noel Midson (brother of the bridegroom).



**Knaresborough Post**

**14 February 1942**

**Promotions:** Two former students of King James's Grammar School have recently secured promotion in their respective branches of the Services. Mr Basil Wilkinson, son of Mr and Mrs W. B. Wilkinson, son of Mr and Mrs W. B. Wilkinson, York Road, becomes Lieut. In the R.N.V.R. and Mr Roy Cartwright, son of Mrs Cartwright and the late Mr A. V. C. Cartwright, Victoria Avenue, has been commissioned as a Pilot-Officer in the R.A.F.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**21 February 1942**

**Women Drivers Wanted** – More women ambulance drivers are required for voluntary duties at the Knaresborough Ambulance Depot. All applicants who would like to do this work must be capable drivers and should apply to Mrs Bray, at the First-Aid, Bond End.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**21 February 1942**

10 **Warship Week** – A number of residents have offered space for Warship Week posters as a result of the appeal made in these notes last week, but the publicity organiser, Mr W. B. Wilkinson, would be glad to hear from more people willing to display posters. Residents of an inventive turn of mind are invited to contribute slogans for use in the publicity campaign.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**21 February 1942**

### **TAYLOR-GREENWOOD**

20 The Rev. E. K. Kissack (Vicar at Knaresborough) officiated at the wedding at the Parish Church on Saturday, of Miss Ruth Greenwood, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Greenwood, "Park View," 24 Scriven Road, Knaresborough and Lance Bombardier Albert Taylor (Iceland Forces), third son of Mrs Taylor and the late Mr W. Taylor, Doris Grove, Harehills, Leeds.

Mr Greenwood gave away his daughter, who wore a dress of white lace over satin, with a taffeta slip, and a tulle veil with a coronet of orange blossom. Her bouquet was of pink carnations and white heather, and she wore a gold and turquoise pendant, lent by her sister.

30 She was attended by three bridesmaids. Miss Hilda Taylor (sister of the bridegroom), Miss Joyce Wintersgill (friend of the bride), and Miss Margaret Wilson (cousin of the bride). Miss Taylor and Miss Wintersgill were attired in dresses of turquoise taffeta, with pink velvet sashes and halo headdresses to match, and wore silver bracelets, the gifts of the bridegroom. Miss Wilson's dress was of pink taffeta, in princess style, with a matching headdress, and she wore a gold and turquoise necklace, the gift of the bridegroom. The attendants' bouquets were of anemones. Mr Peter Greenwood (brother of the bride) was best man, and Mr K. Pocock, groomsman.

The honeymoon is being spent at Harewood. For her travelling outfit, the bride chose a grey chalk strip costume and hat, with maroon accessories and a silver fox fur, and a sealskin handbag, the gift of the bridegroom.

**Knaresborough Post 21 February 1942**



**Knaresborough Post**

**21 February 1942**

**SOLDIERS AND LAND GIRLS ENTERTAINED**

Soldiers and members of the Women's Land Army, from the Knaresborough hostel, were the guests of Scriven Women's Institute at a party held in the Institute Hut on Monday evening. A whist drive occupied the first part of the evening, and after refreshments, provided by members had been served, the floor was cleared for dancing, music for which was supplied by a radiogram lent by Mr G. A. Shaw. The President, Mrs Jacob Smith, welcomed the guests, and later distributed the whist prizes, which included tobacco, cigarettes, shaving soap, writing materials, books of stamps, etc.

10

**Knaresborough Post**

**28 February 1942**

**Missionary Safe** – Information has also reached Knaresborough that the Rev. W. H> Alton, nephew of County Coun. And Mrs E. |Alton, Scriven Lodge, who was serving as a Methodist missionary in the Hong Kong area, is safe. Mrs Alton and their two young children were evacuated to Australia some time ago.

**Knaresborough Post**

**7 March 1942**

20 **Local Girl's Success** – The Eva Moynihan gold medal, the highest award for nursing at Leeds Infirmary, has been won, along with a money prize, by Miss Doreen Baines, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Baines, 2 Park Avenue, Knaresborough. An old pupil of King James's Grammar School, Miss Baines, who is 21, has been on the staff of the Infirmary for the past four years, and is now a staff nurse.

**Knaresborough Post**

**7 March 1942**

**SCRIVEN**

30 **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE** – The March meeting was held on Monday in the Hut. The President, Mrs Jacob Smith, presided. After the business, a delegate from the Ministry of Food gave an instructive and interesting demonstration on war-time cookery.

**Knaresborough Post**

**14 March 1942**

## **KNARESBOROUGH SALVAGE STEWARDS**

### **Sixty Volunteers Enrolled**

In response to the recent appeal for voluntary salvage stewards in Knaresborough, nearly 60 of the 80 estimated to be required have so far been enrolled, and it is hoped to secure the remainder and put the scheme into operation very shortly.

10 Mr H. Eastough, Sanitary Inspector to the Urban Council, said on Thursday that the town had been divided into ten districts for salvage purposes, with a salvage officer in charge of the stewards in each area. More volunteers were wanted in the streets adjoining the Market Place, and also in the Briggate, Fisher Gardens and Wellington Street district.

When the organisation had been completed householders will receive visits from the salvage stewards in their own districts, whose duty it will be, by education of the householder and by personal example, to stimulate the collection of salvage in the area concerned. It is estimated that in the urban district there are some 2,300 premises to be covered. The volunteers so far secured have been obtained through the W.V.S. and the Women's Institutes, whose co-operation in this, as in many other matters, is greatly appreciated by the authorities.

**Knaresborough Post**

20

**21 March 1942**

### **MR W. HERRINGTON**

The interment took place at Knaresborough Cemetery on Thursday of Mr William Herrington, of 33 Kirkgate, formerly of Old Scriven, who died on Sunday, aged 66. The Rev. W. E. Castell officiated.

The mourners included Mr J. Herrington, brother; Miss F. Herrington, Miss L. Herrington, sisters; Mr and Mrs H. Herrington, brother and sister in law; Mr and Mrs F. Herrington, brother and sister in law; Mr and Mrs R. Herrington, brother and sister in law; Mrs Bosomworth, niece; Mr and Mrs H. Steele, Mr R. Meston, Mr R. Barker, Mr C. Lund, Mr A. Lewis, Mr F. Waite, Mrs Vast, Mr F. Gill, Mr B. Stoker, Mr H. Andrews, Mr J. Stalker, Mr J. Wright, Miss Wright.

The arrangements were undertaken by Mr. E. Woodward, motors being supplied by Messrs Dibbs.

30

**Knaresborough Post**

**28 March 1942**

## **IF A HOME GUARD STOPS YOU**

Questions have been asked about the powers of Home Guards regarding search and arrest. This, briefly, is the position:

A Home Guard has the power to demand proof of identity and reasons for being in any particular place; stop and search vehicles in public places, search the occupants and seize any articles therein if suspicions justify.

10 He has the power to arrest and detain for up to 24 hours, after which time the arrested person will be handed over to the police.

**Knaresborough Post**

**11 April 1942**

### **LESTER-BAINES**

The marriage took place at Park Grove Methodist Church, Knaresborough, on Saturday, of Miss Edna Baines, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs Alfred Baines, 2 Park Avenue, Scriven, and Mr Alfred Lester, second son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Lester, Norfolk Road, Byker, Newcastle on Tyne.

Mr Baines gave away his daughter. She wore a dress of white heavy satin, with a white embroidered panel, and a white veil. Her bouquet was of deep pink tulips.

20 The bridesmaids were Miss Doreen Baines (twin sister of the bride), Miss Mary Lester (sister of the groom), and Miss Vera Baines. The chief bridesmaid wore an ankle length dress of blue taffeta with pearls, and carried a bouquet of daffodils. The two younger attendants were in dresses of pink taffeta, and wore blue muffs and blue necklaces.

The Rev. A. J. Marchant officiated. Mr Harry Hutton (cousin of the groom) was best man, and Mr Alfred Baines, junr., groomsman.

The honeymoon is being spent in the North. The bride chose a three piece suit in green, with green accessories, for her travelling outfit.

**Knaresborough Post**

**18 April 1942**

## **KNARESBORO' C.O.s APPEAL DISMISSED**

At the sitting of the Northern Appeal Tribunal for Conscientious Objectors in York on Tuesday, the appeal of Joseph Berman (40), garage labourer, Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough, against removal from the register, was dismissed.

**Knaresborough Post**

**18 April 1942**

10

## **SENT FROM KNARESBOROUGH CANTEEN**

At the meeting of the Knaresborough District Education Sub-committee on Monday, it was reported that arrangements had been made for the provision of mid-day meals for children attending Goldsborough School, about 30 meals a day being sent on from the W.V.S. canteen at Knaresborough.

Goldsborough School again headed the attendance returns for February and March, and the congratulations of the committee were forwarded.

It was reported that Knaresborough Cricket Club had kindly offered the use of their ground for the schoolchildren at a reduced fee of one guinea for the season.

20 The tender of Mr Sewell, Scriven, for renovations to the staff rooms and domestic subjects room at the Modern School was accepted, the price being £46.4s.

**Knaresborough Post**

**25 April 1942**

## **ONE-ACT PLAYS AT SCRIVEN W.I.**

30 On Tuesday night Scriven Women's Institute drama club gave a performance of three one act plays – "Little Glass Houses," an amusing comedy which was charmingly and lightly interpreted to the delight of the audience; "Godstow Nunnery," a poetical drama of unusual depth and seriousness, presented with admirable sensitiveness and restraint in an atmosphere of sanctity and calm; and perhaps most interesting and significant of all, an original play, "The Stool," written by a member of the company, Miss Elizabeth Fox, of Hyde Park, Knaresborough; the play was enthusiastically received by the audience, who enjoyed the excellent characterisation and rich humour, and the author is to be congratulated on the success of her first venture.

Another performance is to be given on May 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7.30pm at the Scriven Women's Institute in aid of the Red Cross.

In these difficult days the importance of dramatic art and play production in affording a mental relaxation and lightening of the spirit, is more apparent than ever before. All over the country, through black-out and through 'blitz,' clashes such as that at Scriven Women's Institute have been meeting regularly after their daily work throughout the winter. They have got to know a larger circle of friends, they have learned to express and develop their own individuality, and equally important, to cooperate in that give and take atmosphere which is to be so large a part of our lives in the post war world.

10

**Knaresborough Post**

**2 May 1942**

## **FIFY-FIVE STREET GROUPS**

### **Knaresborough Nearing Target**

Knaresborough's new drive for street savings groups has continued with unabated enthusiasm. Up to last Thursday, 35 groups had been formed, and a further 20 have been started this week. Another five are required to reach the target of 60 which has been set by the organisers of the drive, Mrs G. A. Kirkley and Mr L. Akeroyd.

20 Collectors are still wanted for the following districts:- Stockwell Place, Blind Lane, Ripley Road, Queen's Road and High Bond End. The work is quite simple, as the street groups operate the stamp scheme, which means that the secretary for a street or group of houses keeps a stock of savings stamps and sells them to members when making the weekly round. There are no complicated accounts to keep, and no one need be afraid of volunteering for fear of finding the work beyond his or her powers. A special appeal is made to housewives in the districts still requiring secretaries to offer their services. Full details will willingly be supplied by Mrs Kirkley, Commercial Hotel, or Mr Akeroyd, 1, Kirkgate.

The secretaries of the groups formed this week are:-

Dropping Well and Low Briggate – Mrs C. Williams, Low Briggate.

Stockwell Ave (even Nos.) – Mrs Hopkinson, 14 Stockwell Avenue.

30 Scriven Road – Miss Anderson, 16 Scriven Road.

Boroughbridge Road (Crescent to Scriven Road) – Misses Hird and Herrington, 10 The Avenue

Boroughbridge Road (right hand side), Beech Grove and Hyde Park – Miss Phillipson, 31 Boroughbridge Road.

Greengate Lane – Miss M. Wilks, 28 Greengate Lane

Halfpenny Lane – Miss N. Calvert, 58 Boroughbridge Road

Park Drive and Stockwell Road – Mrs H. Clapham, 7 Park Drive.

Park Row and Park Parade – Miss E. Malthouse, 5 Bond End.

Calcutt Houses, Belmont Terrace and Balmoral Avenue – Miss K. Mason, Belmont Avenue.

Thistle Hill – Mrs Jackson, 2 Coronation Terrace.

Forest Moor – Miss M. Robinson, Grove Cottage, Forest Moor.

Messrs Parr's, Park Place, High Street – Mrs Newsome, 3 Silver Street

Abbey Road – Miss K. Rodgers, Borrowdale, Abbey Road

10 Aspin Lane, St Robert's Road, Crag Lane – Mrs Mather, 12 Aspin Lane.

King James's Road and York Road – Miss M. Whitehead, 10 Stockdale Walk.

Park Lane from Boys' Home, Wayside Gardens – Miss A. Caygill, 1 Stockwell Lane

Silver Street, Chapel Yard – Miss J. Brown, Castlegate.

Manor Road – Mrs W. Wright, 7 Manor Road

Wetherby Road – Mrs Kelly, Norwood, Wetherby Road

Miss Nuttall, Stockwell Crescent, has been elected to the Street Groups Committee.

#### **Knaresborough Post**

**9 May 1942**

- 20 **D.L.I. Cadets.** – The Durham Light Infantry Cadets, who paid several welcome visits to Knaresborough before the war, are desirous of holding their annual camp here again, but are experiencing difficulty in finding a site, as the field they used previously has had to be ploughed up. Efforts to find them a field are being made by Coun. J. Lingard, who would be glad to hear from anyone who could offer a suitable site.

#### **Knaresborough Post**

**13 June 1942**

**Herb Gathering**

The collection of medicinal herbs has started in Knaresborough district, a number of schoolchildren having already taken up the quest with enthusiasm,. and pending the finding of more suitable premises for a drying centre, part of Scriven Women's Institute hut is being used. The first collection was received there yesterday evening

**Knaresborough Post**

**13 June 1942**

## **FIRE IN KNARESBOROUGH QUARRY**

Prompt action was taken by Knaresborough Fire Guards when an outbreak of fire was reported on Sunday afternoon in a sawdust dump at Messrs Kitching's quarry in Beech Grove, Scriven, The fire was reported to Mr R. M. Shepherd, Head Fire Guard, who lives in Park Avenue, and Mr Shepherd went with other Fire Guards to the scene, taking stirrup pumps. Owing to the looseness of the material, however, the stirrup pumps were not fully effective, and an N.F.S. crew had to be called to deal with the smouldering sawdust. The outbreak is believed to have been caused by cigarette ends carelessly thrown down by spectators at an A.R.P. exercise in the quarry in the morning.

**Knaresborough Post**

**13 June 1942**

**Reported Missing** – Flying Officer John I. Rowe, a former member of the staff of Knaresborough Modern School serving as a bomber pilot, is reported missing from operations over Germany. He is a native of York, and married Miss Mollie Fairman, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. J. T. Fairman, Victoria Avenue. They have one child. In October 1941 Flying Officer Rowe was mentioned in despatches for his gallantry in rescuing a member of his crew when the aircraft in which they had been flying burst into flames after a crash landing, necessitated by the under-carriage having been shot away.

20

**Knaresborough Post**

**2 July 1942**

**Prisoners of War** – A sum of £12 was realised by a whist drive held in the Town Hall last week in aid of the local organisation of the Prisoners of War Relatives' Association. The effort was organised by Mrs Cleasby, Mrs Musgrave and Mrs Spencer, and during the evening those present heard from Mrs Constance Gold, hon. Organising secretary for Yorkshire, an outline of the activities of the society. Thanks were accorded to Mr J. W. Spencer for his generosity in placing the room at the disposal of the organisers.

30

**Knaresborough Post**

**11 July 1942**

## **SCRIVEN**

**WOMEN'S INSTITUTE** – The July meeting was held in the Hut on Monday, Mrs Jacob Smith presiding. A lecture was given on fuel economy. Mr Walker, of Harrogate Gas Co., gave many practical hints on this “burning question” of the day.

Knaresborough Post

1 August 1942

## **PRISONERS OF WAR CLUB**

### **Formed in Knaresborough**

10 At a well attended meeting at the Services Club on Tuesday a Knaresborough Prisoners of War Club was formed with the aims of looking after the welfare of prisoners, providing parcels, and enabling relatives to meet.

Mrs Constance Gold, hon. Organising secretary, Leeds, attended, with Mrs P. M. Stewart, organising secretary of the Prisoners of War Relatives Association, and they were introduced by the Rev. E. H. Holland, Knaresborough Congregational minister, who is treasurer of the Services Club.

Mr Holland said they would all like to do their best for the men from the town who were now prisoners. Mrs M. Cleasby had already done a great deal of work in that direction, and they were pleased to be associated with her and with the leaders of the movement.

20 Mrs Gould gave a detailed explanation of the movement's objects and activities. She referred to the work being done by the Harrogate branch, with which relatives of Knaresborough prisoners had up to now been associated. However, she had been asked so many times to organise a separate branch at Knaresborough, and as the number of relatives was considerable and the workers so enthusiastic. It was felt that the time was now opportune to form a branch.

It was intended to hold meetings in the Services Club at Knaresborough, but members would still be able to use the Harrogate packing centre. She wished to thank the committee of the Services Club for their cooperation, and to pay tribute to the untiring work of Mrs Cleasby.

30 Mrs Stewart spoke of her organisation's work in distributing parcels which she said were now beginning to get through to their destinations more rapidly. It was stated that several Knaresborough men were either missing or prisoners in the Far East, and she assured relatives that the Japanese were showing signs of cooperating. News should soon be coming through. They could have complete confidence in Mr King, who had taken charge of the Far Eastern section of the Red Cross. Names were beginning to come through from Hong Kong, but news of men at Singapore was not expected before September.

Mrs Cleasby was appointed hon. Secretary of the branch, and Miss Margaret Gibson hon. Treasurer.

It was decided to hold meetings at the Services Club, use of a room having been granted by the committee on the first Tuesday in each month, for the time being in the evening. The first meeting will be on September 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm.

Expressing thanks to the Services Club and Mr Holland, Mrs Gold said it was intended as soon as possible to hold an intercession services for prisoners of war in Knaresborough.

The Vicar of Knaresborough, the Rev. B. Kissack, and the Rev. S. J. Hulton expressed their good wishes for the club's success.

**Knaresborough Post**

**15 August 1942**

## **WEDDINGS**

### **WHELLOCK-KITCHING**

10 The wedding took place at Knaresborough Parish Church on Friday of Miss Doreen Joan Kitching, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Arthur H. Kitching, "Runnymede," Ripley Road, Knaresborough, and Sub Lieut. Reginald Baldwin Whellock, R.N.V.R., only son of Mr and Mrs H. S. Whellock, Shirley, Croydon. The bridegroom is a former member of the staff of Knaresborough Grammar School, where the bride has been secretary to the headmaster.

The ceremony was performed by the Vicar of Knaresborough, Rev. B. K. Kissack. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress in a pastel shade of blue nigger brown accessories. Her bouquet was of mixed roses.

There was one bridesmaid, Miss Patricia Cowling, Harrogate, who wore a cyclamen pink dress with navy accessories, and had a spray of white carnations.. The Rev. A. C. Sharples, Ashton under Lyne, was best man.

20 The honeymoon is being spent in the Lake District. The bride travelled in a rust coloured costumer, with nigger accessories.

**Knaresborough Post**

**22 August 1942**

## **KNARESBOROUGH HARVEST CAMP**

### **Cockburn Schoolboys Return**

Two dozen boys from Cockburn High School, Leeds, arrived in Knaresborough last weekend to lend a hand with the harvest, and are now putting in eight hours a day and more on farms in the district.

30 The boys are under canvas in a field off Back Lane, Boroughbridge Road, and have come for a month or five weeks. In holding their harvest camp at Knaresborough, they are renewing acquaintance with the town, for Cockburn School was evacuated here at the beginning of the war and remained for

some considerable time. Mr h. Kerry, one of the masters, who is in charge of the party, remained in Knaresborough after the school returned to Leeds, and has been living in Coverdale Drive, near the camp site. In running the camp, he has the help of two other masters, Mr Speke and Mr Twist, and assistance has also been given by a neighbour of Mr Kerry, Mr C. A. Kuhnel.

Mr Kerry told our representative that work had been found for the boys on farms at Follifoot, Nidd, Brearton and Lingerfield. Reveille was at 6.15am, and breakfast at 7. The boys left at about 7.30 to cycle to the farms, and worked from 8am to 5.30. They took packed lunches with them, and were given tea or "pop" at the farms. Typical menus were:- Monday, stew, followed by rice pudding with dates and prunes; Tuesday, roast beef, new potatoes and peas, with prunes and custard to follow; 10 Wednesday, liver, potatoes and beans, followed by rice pudding; Thursday, stew, with some very special steam puddings made in camp. Cooking is done on primus stoves in a marquee, and a wood fire out of doors is also used. "The lads have doubled their appetites since they came," said Mr Kerry, "and we have to give them about half a loaf each for their midday sandwiches. I've done some camping with boys, but I've never known appetites like these."

### **8d an Hour**

The boys are paid at the rate of 8d an hour by the farmers employing them, and their earnings are put into a common fund, any balance from which, after expenses have been met, will be divided among them.

Cockburn School has run school camps for a number of years now, and before the war a party 20 usually went down to Stratford on Avon each year for the Shakespeare Festival. The boys who have come to Knaresborough have been selected from a list of over 70 who wanted to take part.

### **At Goldsborough**

Another harvest camp in the district is at Goldsborough, where boys from the Crossley and Porter School, Halifax, are helping local farmers. In all, there are to be 14 such camps in the West Riding, accommodating some 300 boys.

#### **Knaresborough Post**

**22 August 1942**

**The Late Mr F. A. Woolley** – In an appreciation of the late Mr F. A. Woolley, of Knaresborough, 30 formerly of Kirby Hill, Mr T. A. Pickering, hon. Secretary of the local Bee keepers' Association, writes: "No one knew more about bees, and he was ever ready to help anyone in difficulty with expert advice and practical assistance. His chief delight was in helping beginners to get a start and looking after them later, all without fee or reward. Those who knew him best feel they have lost a real friend."

**Knaresborough Post**

5 September 1942

## Knarborough Officer's Adventures

A graphic account of his adventures in the Malayas campaign is given by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Donald Fairman, of Knarborough, in a letter home to his parents, Mr and Mrs J. T. Fairman, 35 Victoria Avenue. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Fairman managed to reach India from Sumatra after the ship on which he left Singapore had been dive bombed and sunk.

10 "I suppose I was lucky," he writes, "in that for most of the campaign in Malaya I was just out of reach of anything but bombers, thought that was bad enough. I started near Penang, and apart from a few bombing attacks on us, nothing untoward happened until we reached Johore. Down in Johore, the fun really started, Jap planes in the sky all day and some grand dog fights. We retreated over the Causeway (leading from the mainland to Singapore), and I watched the last troops across – Scotties – piped over by a pipe band. Then we waited, still quite confidently. The artillery started, and our guns were going all day long, and night. Then suddenly, about ten o'clock one night, there was the most terrific artillery duet which lasted all night, and next day we found the Japs had effected a landing."

### "Not Very Comfortable"

20 "The next few days were not vary comfortable, as we were between our big guns and the Japs, and we heard the shells whistling both ways. We should have slept in holes in the ground at night, and most did, but a few younger officers generally had one or two 'pegs' and slept ion our beds in a comfortable room – and we got away with it. Then we were hemmed into Singapore, and it was obvious we could not last much longer. We felt like rats in a trap, but we managed to keep cheerful and the lads were grand.

30 "Then came the day I shall never forget as long as I live, February 13<sup>th</sup>, a Friday. A captain and I were billeted with 50 men in a museum, and we were bombed, shelled and mortared all day long. One shell actually blew a hole in the wall of the room we were in. Luckily, nobody was hurt. Later, I was ordered to report to the docks with 18 men. We boarded a ship, our troubles ended, as we thought; actually, they were just beginning. We were shelled all the time we were boarding, and as we were sailing away. Then we got stuck in the minefield and had to stop there all night, watching Singapore burn and guns flashing.

### Knarborough Post

5 September 1942

**Working Party** – Since January, the members of the working party associated with Park Grove Methodist Church have knitted for the Red Cross: 45 pairs of socks, 7 pairs of gloves, 4 pairs of bedsocks, 10 pullovers with sleeves, and 4 cardigans, also with sleeves, a total of 7 garments. Miss Howard, 12 Park Grove, will be pleased to supply knitters with wool for more articles.

**Rose Hips** – Knaresborough’s medicinal herb drying centre has had a good collection of herbs during the summer, and is now ready to tackle the rose hip harvest. Raspberry leaves and chestnuts are also to be gathered. Rose hips, which form a valuable source of Vitamin C, needed especially by children, are ready for taking as soon as they have begun to redden, but should not be gathered after they have become soft. They should be taken when they are drying, and it is essential that they should reach the manufacturers as soon as possible. The depot, at Scriven Women’s Institute, will be open for receiving each Friday evening, between 6 and 7pm.

**Knaresborough Post**

**12 September 1942**

**Promotion** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Donald Fairman, son of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Fairman, Victoria Avenue, Knaresborough, who is serving in India with the Royal Corps of Signals, has just been commissioned Captain. An account of his escape from Singapore appeared in our last issue.

**Knaresborough Post**

**12 September 1942**

## **KNARESBOROUGH EVENING INSTITUTE**

10 The programme of classes for the winter session of Knaresborough Evening Institute has been issued this week. The Institute will reopen on September 21<sup>st</sup>, and students will be enrolled on September 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

A new departure this session is a dressmaking class at Scotton Village Institute. There will be the usual dramatic art, dressmaking, keep fit and country dancing classes at Scriven Women's Institute, and dressmaking at Forest Moor Women's institute. The programme at Knaresborough Modern School includes classes in dressmaking (elementary and advanced), cooker, keep fit classes and games for older men, physical training and games for youths, keep fit classes for women, first aid courses for men, women, boys and girls. The course for commercial students (shorthand, arithmetic and accounts) is being revived, and already there have been a number of applications, but more  
20 students would be welcomed.

**Knaresborough Post**

**19 September 1942**

## **WEDDINGS**

### **GRAY-PLAXTON**

At Knaresborough Parish Church on Wednesday, the wedding took place of Miss Doreen Mary Plaxton, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Plaxton, Old Scriven, and Sergt. Pilot James Douglas Gray, R.A.F., younger son of Mr and Mrs Gray, Red Lion Hotel, Forres, Scotland. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar of Knaresborough, Rev. B. K. Kissack. Miss Kendal was at the organ.

30 The bride, who was given away by her father, wore an ice blue satin dress and carried a bouquet of pink carnations.

There was one bridesmaid, Miss Alma Binks, friend of the bride, who wore a dress of white net over white satin and had a bouquet of mixed sweet peas. Sergt. Observer R. Webster was best man.

The honeymoon is being spent at Forres. For travelling, the bride wore a fawn elephant crepe coat over a green skirt and floral blouse.

#### **Knaresborough Post**

**26 September 1942**

**Promotion** – Sergeant Major Kenneth Morrell, youngest son of Mr and Mrs E. Morrell, 59 Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough, who is serving in the Middle East, with the Royal Engineers, has just been commissioned full Lieutenant. He joined the Army 17 years ago, and has held the rank of Sergeant Major for the past seven years.

Knaresborough Post

**26 September 1942**

## **WEDDINGS**

### **MOORE-SUTCLIFFE**

At Knaresborough Parish Church on Monday, the wedding took place of Miss Mary Sutcliffe, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs James Sutcliffe, "Ferney Lee," Greengate Lane, Knaresborough, and Sergeant Ronald Thomas Moore, R.A.F., only son of Major and Mrs T. W. Moore, Swanage. The bride's father is Local Public Assistance Officer at Knaresborough.

The ceremony was performed by the Vicar of Knaresborough (Rev. B. K. Kissack), the bride being given away by her father. She wore a Grecian style gown designed and made by the bridegroom's mother with a head dress of orchids. Her bouquet was of pink roses, and she wore a gold cross and chain.

There was one bridesmaid, Miss Joan M. Parker, who wore a gown of blue tulle over taffeta, and carried a bouquet of sweet peas.

Capt. C. H. Davies, R.A., was best man, and Sergt. Dennis Fletcher, R.A.F., groomsman.

The honeymoon is being spent on the South Coast. The bride travelled in a green tweek suit with brown accessories.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**17 October 1942**

**Messengers' Headquarters** – Knaresborough's Civil Defence messengers now have a headquarters where they can meet for instruction and recreation, premises at the rear of property in Bond End having been adapted for this purpose. The boys attached to the local messenger service decorated the place themselves, and games equipment and a wireless set have been installed. The room is open each Tuesday and Thursday evening from 7.10pm.

Knaresborough Post

17 October 1942

# MIDDLE EAST MEETING

## KNARESBOROUGH BROTHERS' ENCOUNTER

In a letter to his parents, Signaller George F. Smith, eldest son of Mr and Mrs P. F. Smith, 73 Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough, late of Beckwithshaw and Markington,. Mentions that he has met his younger brother, Alfred, who is also serving with the Royal Corps of Signals, in the Middle East.

10 Signaller George Smith, who is 24, has been in the Army for three years, and went to the Middle East nearly two years ago. His younger brother, who recently celebrated his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, joined up in August 1941, and has been in the Middle East since June. He is serving as a despatch rider.

It is interesting to note that Signaller George Smith also had the pleasure earlier in the year of meeting his brother in law, Trooper Gebhard, whose home is at Wakefield, later served in the campaign in Burma, and is now in India.

Knaresborough Post

31 October 1942

20 **Books for the Navy.** The recent appeal for books for the Navy has brought a good response, and the sack placed at Messrs Parr's Ltd., for the receipt of gifts was quickly filled with books and magazines in great variety. Many more are needed, however, for our fighting men at sea, and further gifts will be greatly appreciated by the local organiser, Mrs Dean, Branton Court, Farnham.

Knaresborough Post

31 October 1942

## KNARESBOROUGH SEAMAN'S DEATH

30 A list of Merchant Navy casualties published on Thursday included the name of First Officer George William Revell, whose wife lives at 35 Park Avenue, Knaresborough. A native of Hull, First Officer Revell, who was 35, had been in the Merchant Service since he was 15, and before the war was on ships taking holidaymakers for cruises in Norwegian waters. Since the war he had seen service chiefly in the Mediterranean, where his ship assisted in the evacuation from Crete and in the running of supplies into beleaguered Tobruk. For this work, the ships company was commended. He was reported missing last December. Mrs Revell came to Knaresborough from Hull about a year ago.

**Knaresborough Post**

**31 October 1942**

**Stretcher Bearers Wanted.** A number of volunteers are wanted for occasion duty as stretcher bearers at a local hospital. Offers of help in this service would be welcomed by Mr W. B. Wilkinson, or Mr R. Holmes.

10 Old Batteries – Another current appeal is that made by the Girl Guides for old electric lamp batteries, which are urgently needed for salvage, more particularly the carbon rods in the middle of run down batteries, which can be used to make new ones. Mrs Sinkinson, at Messrs Parr's, will be glad to receive readers' scrap batteries.

**Knaresborough Post**

**9 November 1942**

**For the Red Cross** – A series of fortnightly whist drives in aid of the British Red Cross is to be held at Scriven Women's Institute, beginning next Monday at 7.p.m. The events are being organised by Mrs Jacob Smith, assisted by Mrs Sutcliffe and Mrs Norman.

**Knaresborough Post**

**14 November 1942**

20 **For Bones** – Efforts to improve the collection of bones are being made in the urban district, and the Sanitary Inspector, Mr H. Eatough, has designed a very useful type of container, adapted from the standard four gallon petrol tin. A number of these, painted white and by no means unattractive in appearance, are to be placed on fences in the Scriven area and will be emptied regularly.

Knaresborough Post

**21 November 1942**

## **WEDDINGS**

### **ATKINSON-CRABTREE**

30 Mr Harry Atkinson, youngest son of Mrs Atkinson, Rose Cottage, Old Scriven, Knaresborough, and the late Mr Edwin E. Atkinson, and his Beryl Crabtree, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Alfred Crabtree, of 77 Franklin Road, Harrogate, were married at St Luke's Church, Harrogate. The Rev. J. E. Wright (Vicar) officiated.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of white embossed satin with train, and a gold cross, and carried a bouquet of chrysanthemums.

Mrs Amy Holsin was maid of honour, and the bridesmaids were Miss Miriam Crabtree, Miss Margaret Humphrey and Miss Beryl Palmer. Two were dressed in fuchsia with strings of pearls and two in powder blue with silver diamante necklaces.

Mr Eric Martin was best man, and the groomsman was Mr Will Atkinson.



10

**Knaresborough Post**

**28 November 1942**

**UNABLE TO WEAR KHAKI**

**KNARESBOROUGH MAN'S EXPERIENCE**

A Knaresborough man who served in France with the B.E.F. and was in the evacuation from Dunkirk, has recently been discharged from the Army because he cannot wear khaki. The material set up a form of dermatitis, believed to be caused by certain dyes in the fabric.

He is Mr Kenneth W. Wilkinson, younger son of Mr and Mrs W. B. Wilkinson, York Road, and he is now back in civilian life as a director of Messrs Parr's Ltd., Knaresborough He was in the local

Territorial unit before the war, and served in the Army for two years after September 1939, before any trace of dermatitis appeared. He was perfectly fit both before and after joining the Army. When the affection started in August of last year he was treated for some time in two military hospitals, and was also attended by a well known skin specialist. A number of tests were carried out with different materials, and it was conclusively proved that he was allergic to khaki. Tests with the materials used in R.A.F. and Navy uniforms showed that these also set up irritation, and when recently he was offered a commission in the A.T.C. he had to decline the invitation on medical advice.

10 Khaki dermatitis is not entirely unknown in the Army, but only a relatively small number of cases have been reported. Mr W. B. Wilkinson said this week that an analytical chemist connected with a West Riding clothing firm, to whom his son's case had been mentioned, thought that the dermatitis was caused either by shoddy material or by dyes in the khaki.

#### **Knaresborough Post**

**5 December 1942**

**For Old People** – The welfare of old people in the town at Christmas has not been over looked, and some generously minded residents have again forwarded donations for the provision of Christmas gifts to Mr W. B. Wilkinson, who has interested himself in this cause for a number of years now. Mr Wilkinson would be glad of further gifts of goods or money for the benefit of local old people.

20

#### **Knaresborough Post**

**12 December 1942**

### **Toy Stall an Attraction**

A well stocked toy stall was a leading attraction at the Red Cross sale organised by Mrs H. Clapham at Scriven Women's Institute on Saturday. With thoughts of Christmas in mind visitors to the sale displayed keen interest in the dolls and animals, all made from odd scraps of material by women and children in the neighbourhood, and the stall was quickly cleared. There were about 100 toys on the stall originally. Illuminated Christmas trees added to the attractiveness of the display.

30 Mr R. Holmes, vice chairman of the Knaresborough Red Cross Penny-a-Week Fund, presided at the opening ceremony, which was performed by Miss Snowdon, of Crag Top. Both Mr. Holmes and Miss Snowden referred to Knaresborough's wonderful National Savings record, and the very high average of £127 per head over the three years of the campaign, and Miss Snowdon spoke of the varied work of the Red Cross more particularly the care of prisoners of war and the trading of those who were missing. During the past year, she mentioned, Knaresborough had raised nearly £500 for the Penny a Week Fund, a very gratifying achievement.

A bouquet of chrysanthemums was presented to Miss Snowdon by Jacqueline Mills.

In moving a vote of thanks to the opener, Mr Holmes expressed his appreciation of the services of the Penny a Week Fund Committee and collectors. The results he said spoke for themselves.

### **Stallholders**

Second hand clothing: Mrs Hogg, Mrs Paul; toys: Mrs Rex, Norah Calvert; confectionery: Mrs Rudd (Harrogate), Mrs Clapham; "white elephant": Miss Wood; fancy: Mrs Mills; teas: Mrs Wilks, Miss Howard, Mrs Smith (Ferrensby); houp-la: John Hogg, Brian Wilks, Ian Paul.

Other helpers included the following girls from the Grammar School, some of whom are Penny a Week Fund collectors: Joyce Weatherill, Marjorie Dibbs. Pat Thompson, Joan Feathersone, Betty and Shirley Clapham, Betty Hick, Deirdre Paul Christine Broadbent, Betty Shipley, Muriel Scholes. Jacqueline Mills and Elixabeth Rex, both in Red Cross uniform, carried collecting boxes.

10

### **Knaresborough Post**

**12 December 1942**

**Red Cross Sale.** Mrs H. Clapham, organiser of the Red Cross sale at Scriven W.I. Hut last Saturday, reports that the proceeds, after all expenses have been paid, amount to £40.

### **Knaresborough Post**

**19 December 1942**

#### **P.O.W. CLUB WHIST DRIVE**

20

A whist drive in aid of the funds of the Knaresborough branch of the Prisoners of War Club was held at the Town Hall on Friday. Mrs Sutcliffe was M.C. Three dolls were offered for competition by Mr Summerscales and his family, and named Elizabeth, Margaret Rose and Winnie. It was announced that the sale of tickets had realised £50.

Mrs Cleasby, hon. Secretary of the branch, thanked the people for their support, Miss Sibson, hon. Treasurer moved a vote of thanks to Mr Summerscales.

30

The club is open to all relatives of prisoners of war in the town, and meets every month in the Services' Canteen to exchange news. Funds are urgently needed to supply comforts, cigarettes and food parcels regularly to local men. Any contribution for this purpose will be gratefully received by the hon. Treasurer, Miss M. Sibson, The Chequers, Knaresborough, or the hon secretary, Mrs Cleasby, Park Avenue, Knaresborough. Thanks are expressed to Mr Spencer and his family for lending the room for the whist drive, to Mr Summerscales and his family for giving the dolls, and to all who have supported the club in any way.

**Knaresborough Post**

**26 December 1942**

**FINDLAY-ABBOTT**

The marriage took place on Thursday last by licence at Guildford, Surrey, of Sapper Peter Findlay, Royal Engineers, only son of the Rev. G. H. And Mrs Findlay of Birkby, Huddersfield, formerly of Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough, and Miss Joan Abbott, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Bernard P Abbott, West View, Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough.

10 The bridegroom is a Slade art scholarship winner. The bride, a former pupil of King James's Grammar School, was trained at Guy's Hospital, London, and when she became a Sister Tutor three years ago, she was one of the youngest holders of that position in the country. She is now Sister Tutor in a new Yorkshire hospital.