



# KNARESBOROUGH G.T.CRECRUITING WEEK

Knaresborough Company of the Girls' Training Corps ends its recruiting week tomorrow (Sunday) with a church parade at 10.30am to the Parish Church. After the service, the salute will be taken in the Castle Grounds by Mrs C. H. Tetley. This evening, the girls of the company are giving a concert at King James's Grammar School.

During the week, by courtesy of Mr J. W. Spencer, short talks have been given in connection with the recruiting drive at the dances at the Town Hall. On Monday evening, the speaker was Coun. P. Broadbelt, Chairman of the Urban Council, who was supported by the Commandant, Miss B. M. Sawdon, Section Leader Pickles and Cadet Mason. Coun.

10 Broadbelt said the G.T.C. had helped Knaresborough during the "Holidays-at-Home" Week and the "Thanks for Attack" campaign, and would no doubt be called upon to help in the "Wings for Victory" effort. It was up to Knaresborough to help the company in return.

## Not "Hitler Youth"

The speaker on Tuesday evening was Mr Jack Thompson, secretary of Knaresborough Youth Council, who was supported by the Assistant Commandant Miss Godfrey, Assistant Officer Miss Heaton, Assistant Section Leader G. Shillito, and Cadet Whiteley. Mrs Jacob Smith, also of the Youth Council, followed on Wednesday evening, and was supported by Assistant Officer Mrs King, Assistant Officer Miss Webster, Section Leader Harot and Cadet Ellerker. Mrs Smikth emphasised that membership of the G.T.C. did not involve any of the women's services, though it gave girls excellent training for them, and said there was nothing of the Hitler Youth about the movement. Yesterday evening, the speaker was Lieut. Miss Wansborough, M.T.C., who was supported by Miss Sawdon. Adjutant Mrs Kettlewood, Assistant Section Leader A. Shillito and Cadet Proctor.

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## Knaresborough Post

20 February 1943

**Scriven Effort.** – Residents of Scriven joined recently in a very successful effort on behalf of the men of H.M.S. Wallflower, Knaresborough's corvette. Learning that the ship's company lacked a wireless set, Mrs H. Cassells and Mrs A. Linden decided to run a jumble sale in order to try and provide them with one. The people of the neighbourhood rallied round with generous gifts of articles for the sale, and as the result of some good team work, no less a sum than £30. 5s. Has been raised. The organisers are now waiting to hear the Wallflower men's views on the type of set which will suit their requirements best.

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## Knaresborough Post

6 March 1943

**A Rat in a Trap?** – A good deal of interest has been aroused by a novel display this week in the window of the Gas Company's showroom in High Street, Knaresborough, where Hitler is featured in a trap in the middle of a ring of toy animals. The caption reads: "If you would 'tice

him to the trap, you cannot stop to take a nap. Then up and at him, townsfolk true. Let Hitler see what we can do." The toys, which are beautifully made, are the work of the daughters of County Coun. E. Alton, chairman of the local Savings Committee.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**20 March 1943**

**New Ration Books.** – A preliminary appeal for helpers, voluntary or paid, to assist with the writing up of the new ration books, is made by Mr F. Rogers, Food Executive Officer for Knaresborough and Nidderdale. The work will begin about the middle of May, and Mr Rogers would be glad if any people who are interested would communicate with him at the Food Office, 12 York Place, Knaresborough.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**27 March 1943**

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**Letter From India.** – A.D. 1. G. W> Holmes, whose home is at Knaresborough, writes to us from India to say he has seen a poster of the Valley Gardens when coming out of an Indian station. He says this gave him a thrill of home and reflects great credit on Harrogate for such a wide field of advertisement. He also tells us how eagerly he looks forward to the local newspapers. He always enjoyed reading the local news in peace time, but now he reads every word from cover to cover.

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**Played for Scriven** – He used to think Harrogate Stray was a bit hard when he played on it for Scriven Park A.F.C., “but the football pitches out here are more like red sand tennis court.” He says, “We have some good matches with the Indian teams. Indian footballers play in the bare feet. They can run like hares and dribble like wizards. It takes a good team to beat them.” He says it seems funny to see men flying kites as the Indian men do, and that hockey is the game in which India excels. He recognises a number of English birds, crows, swallows, wagtails and sparrows. Horse cabs and traps are used as much as they were in “Blighty” twenty years ago.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**27 March 1943**

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**Former Knaresborough Teacher,** Mrs Mollie Rowe, daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Fairman, Victoria Avenue, Knaresborough, has now been officially informed that her husband, pilot Officer J. L. Rowe, a former member of the Modern School staff, must be presumed killed. Pilot Officer Rowe was posted missing nearly a year ago, after a raid on Essen a week after the thousand bomber raids on Cologne and the Ruhr, in which he took part.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**27 March 1943**

### **THE ARMY'S MAID OF ALL WORK**

Of all the Army's "armoured fighting vehicles" perhaps least is heard of the Universal Carrier – popularly known as the Bren Carrier.

10 The Carrier is the Army's Maid of all work. It can go almost anywhere and do almost anything. It carried troops into action, providing them with a good deal of protection by its armoured sides. It is able to operate over any country which tanks can negotiate, and over some which tanks would find impossible to traverse. It can pull light anti tank guns: take transport, mortars and ammunition and can be used as a firing platform for the mortars: it is a self propelled machine gun nest.

By an ingenious arrangement of floats, the carrier is able to ford streams, making it almost amphibious.

On land it is fast, its top speed being 35 miles an hour, and it is highly manoeuvrable under all conditions.

The carrier is a development from the old light tank which weighed about 7 tons and uses a very similar suspension track and wheel arrangement. The top of the carrier was left open, seats were fitted in it, and its box like hull arranged for the transport of troops.

### **Mass Produced**

20 Many thousands of these carriers have been made in Ministry of Supply factories. From the manufacturing point of view, their main virtue is their simplicity. Mass production methods can be, and have been, applied to them.

Thousands of men and women in factories all over England are engaged in their production. In one big factory more than 30 per cent of the workers on the production line are women.

Those who have seen these carriers rattling along the roads may not have realised that these rather noisy little vehicles actually run on rubber tyres. Each of the six wheels has a solid rubber tyre which runs on the track as it is laid down.

30 Bren carriers have seen action in France and in the Low Countries, in the Western Desert, and in the Far East. Wherever British troops have gone, the Bren Carrier has gone with them.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**3 April 1943**

**Promotion.** – Leading Airman Alan Todd, son of Mr and Mrs Percy Todd, Park Grove, Knaresborough, has been promoted Petty Officer in the Fleet Air Arm. He returned to this country in December on being realised from internment in French North Africa after the allied landings there.

**Knaresborough Post**

**3 April 1943**

**KNARESBOROUGH PETTY SESSIONS**

Wednesday: Before Col. W. F. Collins (Chairman), Capt. W. H. Featherston, County Coun. E. Alton, Mr R. Holmes and Mr J. H. C. Hodgson.

**Three months for Home Guard Absentee**

Robert Leach, timber feller, Knaresborough, pleaded not guilty to absenting himself without reasonable excuse from Home Guard duty on five dates in January and February.

10 Supt. Cockroft said Leach, who was 21, was enrolled in March last year, and his attendance at parades had been very unsatisfactory. He had been given every opportunity, but had evidently made up his mind that he was not going to take any interest in Home Guard work. He had been described as "an ingenious malingerer," and had put forward various excuses, but no reliance could be placed on his statements. In the four months from August to December last year, he performed only 52 and a half hours duty, though Home Guards could be required, if necessary, to do 48 hours a month.

20 Major H. L. C. Aked, Commanding Officer of the unit, said one of Leach's excuses was that he had a weak heart, but he had been examined by the home Guard medical officer and had been pronounced fit for duty. He also pleaded that he could not read, but the officers read the orders over to him and he understood what was required of him. In August he put in 24 hours, in September 14 and a half, in October 2 and in November 12. He did not appear at all in December.

30 Lieut. Malcolm J. T. Fairman, platoon commander, said defendant was ordered on January 3<sup>rd</sup> to report on the 4<sup>th</sup> and on each succeeding Monday until further notice, and on the 10<sup>th</sup> and each succeeding Sunday. The order was read over to him, but he failed to attend on the five occasions referred to in the summonses. No excuses were received, except on one occasion, when witness saw him the day after and he said he had had a bad cold. When he was asked later for his reasons for not attending the parades, he said he was working on two days and on another he did not get up early enough. No reason was given for his absence on the other two occasions. Witness had reasoned with him and appealed to him. He had promised to do things and at once ignored his promise.

Evidence was also given by Sgt. Charles Padgett and Second Lieut. W. Summerscales.

Leach said he was working for an Otley firm and when he had a day's work, he could not go on Home Guard Duty.

Cross examined, defendant said he sometimes had to work away and did not get back until late. He admitted that he was not working on one of the Sundays mentioned, and in reply to further questions, said his main reason for not attending parades was that he wanted to go to Leeds at week-ends to see his wife, who was working there.

The chairman said Leach would be committed for three months.

**Knaresborough Post**

**3 April 1943**

**KNARESBOROUGH MAN HONOURED**

At a recent investiture at Buckingham Palace, Lieut. Robert A. L Viner, of 4 West Park View, Boroughbridge Road, Knaresborough, received the D.S.C., awarded to him "for bravery, endurance and devotion to duty whilst in command of one of H.M. minesweepers."

Lieut. Viner is the eldest son of Mr Clement Viner of The Grove, West Runton, Norfolk,, and married in 1939 the only daughter of Mrs G. A. Wood, Scriven House, Knaresborough. They have two small sons. Lieut. Viner's wife and father were present at the investiture.

10

**Knaresborough Post**

**10 April 1943**

**Scriven Effort** – As the result of a whist drive organised by Mrs T. Cassells as Scriven's effort towards the "Wings for Victory" Week expenses fund, and held last Thursday in Scriven W.I. Hut, a sum of £7.12s was raised. Further efforts on behalf of the fund are being run next week by the Street Groups Committee (Tuesday evening at the Commercial Hotel) and by the Social Groups Committee (Friday evening at the Modern School).

20

**Knaresborough Post**

**17 April 1943**

**KNARESBOROUGH AIRMAN MISSING**

Flying Officer Roy Cartwright, R.A.F.V.R., only son of Mrs Cartwright and the late Mr A. V. C. Cartwright, "El-Encanto," Victoria Avenue, Knaresborough, is reported missing from recent operations in the Mediterranean. Flying Officer Cartwright, who was 22 years of age, had only just gone out to Malta. He is an old boy of King James's Grammar School. His engagement was announced last year to Miss Patricia Jackson, niece of Mr E. Jackson, "Hillrise," The Avenue, Knaresborough, who is now working with the Women's Land Army in the South.





**Knaresborough Post**

**8 May 1943**

**Harvest Camps.** – Many schools will be holding harvest camps in Yorkshire this autumn. Boys from Cockburn High School, Leeds, will again be in camp at Knaresborough from the middle of August to well on in September, and a camp is to be held at Copgrove by Netheredge Grammar School, Sheffield.

**Knaresborough Post**

**8 May 1943**

**KNARESBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

**Emergency Powers (Defence) Acts, 1939 and 1940.**

**Regulations of Unnecessary Railings.**

UNDER the direction by the Commissioners of Works all unnecessary Iron and Steel Railings, Posts, Chains, Bollards, ?Gates, Stiles, etc, in the Urban District of Knaresborough will shortly be removed and collected for use int he national war effort in iron and steel works and foundries.

10 Notice is hereby given that on or after the 17<sup>th</sup> May, 1943, the work of removal will commence with the railings in the following streets and places:

Alexandra Place  
Avenue, The  
Beech Grove  
Belmont Avenue (Forest Moor)  
Belmont View (Brewerton Street)  
Belmont View (Calcutt)  
Berry's Passage

20 Bond End  
Bland's Hill  
Boroughbridge Road  
Brewerton Street  
Briggate  
Back Lane  
Colnyngham Hall  
Calcutt  
Castlegate  
Castle yard  
Chapel Street

30 Church Lane  
Church Walk  
Cattle Market  
Finkle Street  
Forest Moor Road  
Foundry Gardens  
Gracious Street  
Greengate Lane  
Hambleton Grove  
High Street

40 High Bond End  
Hyde Park Road  
Iles Lane  
King James's Road  
Kirkgate  
Knaresborough Road  
Lands Lane  
Market Place

Mayfield Grove  
Mill Steps  
Park Avenue  
Park Grove  
Park Lane  
Park Parade  
Park Place  
Park Row  
Park Terrace  
10 Raw Gap  
Scriven Road  
Station Road  
Stead's Yard  
Stephenson's Close  
Stockdale Walk  
Stockwell Road  
Thistle Hill  
Vicarage Lane  
Victoria Avenue  
20 Waterside  
Wetherby Road  
Windsor Lane  
York Place  
York Road  
York Road (off).

It is hoped that owners will be prepared to make a free gift of their railings, etc., to the nation, but property owners and others whose interests are affected by the removal and who desire to claim compensation may obtain the appropriate form from:

30 Mr L. Atkinson  
Financial Officer  
Council Offices  
Knaresborough

### Knaresborough Post

8 May 1943

## SCRIVEN

40 **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.** – The monthly meeting of Scriven Women's Institute was held at "The Hut" on Monday, Mrs Jacob Smith presiding. Members of the dressmaking class, held during the winter, displayed the results of their work, which all agreed was of a high standard and attractive.

A course of ten demonstrations on "Make do and mend," is to be held at "The Hut" on Tuesdays, from 2-15 to 4-15, beginning on May 4<sup>th</sup>. These are open to all non-members of the Institute as well as members. Congratulations were given to the drama team on their successful concerts, and the members' best wishes were given for success in the competitions to be held on May 12<sup>th</sup> in Harrogate. The secretary gave her report as delegate to the half yearly meeting at York.

After the business meeting, Miss Richardson, of the staff of a Yorkshire paper, gave an interesting and instructive talk on "The production of a Newspaper." The talk was much appreciated.

### **Knaresborough Post**

**15 May 1943**

#### **HOME GUARD ANNIVERSARY**

#### **KNARESBOROUGH DEMONSTRATIONS**

10 On Sunday the Home Guard is to be on show to the public, to mark the third anniversary of its formation. The Prime Minister has directed that ceremonial parades shall be held throughout the country, and he also broadcast a message from America on Friday evening in connection with the anniversary.

At Knaresborough, E. Company of the 6<sup>th</sup> West Riding Battalion will parade at headquarters at 2.30pm on Sunday, and march through the main streets of the town, afterwards proceeding to Fyache Hall Playing Fields, where a number of demonstrations of weapons and training will be given, principally by 19 and 20 platoons, from 2pm. Teams will demonstrate the mounting and use of the various weapons with which the home Guard is now armed, including mortars, anti tank guns, machine guns and other automatic arms, and the public will be invited to inspect the equipment on view. A display of bayonet fighting will be given.

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### **Knaresborough Post**

**22 May 1943**

**Good Friday in Tunisia** – How one section of the British North African Forces spent Good Friday is described in a letter we have received from Trooper Fred Eshelby, of Greengate Lane, Knaresborough, who has been serving with an armoured unit in Tunisia. "Last night we harboured on the wooded slopes at the foot of a range of hills," he writes, "and got down to a well earned sleep, some in their vehicles, others in 'bivvies' and the less fortunate under the stars with a fir tree for a little protection from the wind." The Good Friday breakfast menu was a mug of hot tea, a portion of porridge, two rashers of bacon, some vegetables and a slice of bread and butter.

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**Service in Clearing** – During the morning, a service was conducted by the chaplain in a clearing on the hillside, the men forming three sides of a square. The C.O. read the lesson, from the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter of St John, prayers were said, and the men sang the hymn, "Lead us, heavenly Father." "Although the service only lasted 10 minutes," says Trooper Eshelby, "It was most impressive. After we had dispersed, I was overjoyed to find a Geordie comrade of mine who I thought had been killed. This was the first gathering of the squadrons since the recent action, and no doubt many men looked for their particular pals."

**Home for Christmas?** Trooper Eshelby says he is pretty well up to date with local news, as his wife forwards the Knaresborough Post, which is read with keen interest by many men in the unit. He ends his letter, "May I send my best wishes to all my friends in Knaresborough and district, and especially to the members of the Conservative Club. They may like to know I am in perfect health, and I hope to win the Christmas handicap this year."

**Knaresborough Post**

**29 May 1943**

**MRS P. MAINMAN**

- 10 The death has occurred at Winnipeg, Canada, of Mrs Ethel Mainman, wife of Mr Percy Mainman, formerly of Knaresborough, and a niece of the late Mr W. Sewell of Old Scriven. She went out to Canada with her husband some thirty years ago. There is a family of three sons and three daughters. Two of the sons are serving with the Canadian Forces.

**Knaresborough Post**

**3 June 1943**

**GOULD-CHAPMAN**

- 20 The wedding has taken place at Ballywater, Northern Ireland, of Cpl. Jean Chapman, W.A.A.F., eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs T. Chapman, 21 Park Grove, Knaresborough, and L.A.C. Archie Gould, of Stonehaven, Scotland. The bride was given away by the commander of the station on which she and her husband are serving, and the reception was held in the officers' mess.

**Knaresborough Post**

**12 June 1943**

**Billeting Officer.** – Mrs M. Smith, who has been billeting officer for Knaresborough Urban district for the past 18 months, has accepted a similar appointment with Denby Dale Urban Council. She is being succeeded by Mr H. B. Holgate, Knaresborough, who has been assistant billeting officer.

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**Knaresborough Post**

**12 June 1943**

**Home Nursing.** – The following students of the home nursing class at Knaresborough Evening Institute gained certificates in the recent examination: Jessica Lambert, Hazel Alton, Althea Cassels, Signa Beck, Sarah Steele, Eva Chapman, Vera Tipling.



**Knaresborough Post**

**12 June 1943**

**WINGS FOR VICTORY WEEK SUCCESS**

**Final figures issued on Thursday for Nidderdale rural district's "Wings for Victory" Week show that the district succeeded in doubling the original target of £100,000, the amount raised being £212,000. All five sub districts exceeded their targets, four of them doubling their objective.**

The result of "Wings for Victory" Week is considerably in advance of the figure achieved during Warship Week last year, when £169,000 was raised. In addition to the amount  
10 invedsted, a sum of £1,774 in free gifts to the country has been received to date. It is probable that this figure will be exceeded during the next few days.

**In the Sub-Districts**

Details of local investments are as under:-

No. 1 District

Target £15,000

Total £31,262. 18s. 9d

		£	s	d
	Allerton with Hopperton	349	1	6
	Ferrensby	541	8	3
20	Arkenda	3155	5	0
	Knaresborough Outer	4200	14	11
	Farnh	1664	17	6
	Goldsborough	6431	9	4
	Follifoot	7117	1	6
	Scotton		2877	18 6
	Scriven		1908	5 0
	Staveley	2558	18	0
	Great Ribston	525	10	0
	Hunsingore	1217	13	9
30	Firms	214	4 6 and	20 9 0

## **Knaresborough Post**

**26 June 1943**

**Harvest Camps.** – The arrangement for boys from Cockburn High School, Leeds, to hold a harvest camp at Knaresborough again this year is now confirmed. The party, in charge of Mr H. Kerry, of Coverdale Drive, Knaresborough, will be in camp in Back Lane, off Boroughbridge Road, from August 16<sup>th</sup> to September 18<sup>th</sup>. County Coun. E. Alton of the West Riding War Agricultural Committee, is Liaison officer, and farmers wanting help should apply either to County Coun. Alton or Mr Kerry. Girls of Belmont and Lothian Schools, Harrogate, will also be helping in the district, and Nether Edge Grammar School, Sheffield, will be camping at Copgrove from August 28<sup>th</sup> to September 25<sup>th</sup>. Keighley Girls' High School will be at Staveley from October 2<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, and Roundhay High School, Leeds, at Minskip from August 28<sup>th</sup> to October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**10 July 1943**

# **KNARESBOROUGH STREET GROUPS**

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

At the first annual meeting of the street groups section of Knaresborough Savings Committee, held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday, Mr L. Akeroyd was re-elected chairman. Mrs H. Cassells, Park Avenue, was appointed hon. Secretary in succession to Coun. Mrs Kirkley, who has resigned owing to pressure of public work and on taking over the general secretaryship. Mrs N. Atkinson, Scriven Road, was elected hon. Treasurer.

Reports on the "Wings" campaign showed that the street groups, whose targets had amounted to £6,000, had raised over £34,000. On behalf of the Savings Committee, County Coun. E. Alton thanked the street group secretaries for their splendid work in the campaign.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**17 July 1943**

**Stamps for the Bomb.** - The proceeds of several efforts in Scriven during the week were devoted to the purchase of stamps to be stuck on the "bomb for Berlin" at the Savings Centre. A number of Scriven children gave a concert and raised £6, a sale organised by Shirley Clapham produced £3. 10s., and £1. 12s. 6d, was raised by a competition run by Mrs Mills.



**Knaresborough Post**

**24 July 1943**

**KNARESBOROUGH FIRST-AID SUCCESSES**

All the Knaresborough Evening Institute students entered for the recent St. John Ambulance first-aid examination passed. The results were:- Certificates, John R. Wood, Geoffrey C. Wood, Arthur Rogers, Mervyn R. Kuhnel, Edgar Tetley, Douglas Kitching; vouchers, William Swires, Harry Herrington, Wilfred E. Day; medallion, Arthur Holmes; labels, William R. Mosby, George H. Hallam, Gilbert A. Wakefield. Dr G. Holroyde was the examiner, and the course was given by Dr D. F. Dobson.

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**Knaresborough Post**

**14 August 1943**

**KNARESBOROUGH HARVEST LABOUR**

**N/F/U/ RECOMMENDATION**

At a meeting of the West Riding County branch of the National Farmers Union in Leeds on Friday, it was reported that the Cereals Committee had considered a reported serious shortage of labour for the harvest in the Knaresborough district, and had decided to recommend that Italian prisoners should be taken off drainage work and put to help with the harvest.

20 It was stated that arrangements were being made for soldiers to lend a hand in cases where no other labour was available.

**Knaresborough Post**

**21 August 1943**

**Harvest Camp.-** Boys of Cockburn High School, Leeds, who are holding their second harvest camp at Knaresborough, arrived on Saturday and started work on farms in the district on Monday. The camp, in Back Lane, off Boroughbridge Road, is in charge of Mr H. Kerry, and the boys, thirty six in number, will be here for five weeks. Last year, when the party consisted of twenty six boys, 4,500 hours were put in, and with more boys available this year, it is hoped to exceed this figure by a good margin.

30

**Knaresborough Post**

**2 October 1943**

**KNARESBOROUGH AND NORTH RIGTON C.O.s.**

At the Conscientious Objectors' Tribunal in Leeds on Monday, Harold Bailes (18), Beech Grove, Knaresborough, a Post Office draughtsman, whose eyesight was stated to be defective, was registered on condition that he remains in his present occupation.

John William Bradley (18), farm hand, Chapel Hill, North Rigton, was registered for non-combatant service.

- 10 Applicant said his family were associated with the Brethren of Christ, and a conscientious objector from Knaresborough came to the house every Sunday to address meetings. Asked by the Chairman (Judge W. Stewart) if he objected to working in a mine, Bradley said he did, adding that he was prepared to work on top.

**Knaresborough Post**

**23 October 1943**

**KNARESBOROUGH MEN COMING HOME**

**Repatriated Prisoners-of-War**

- 20 **Four soldiers from Knaresborough and district are among the 4,340 British and American prisoners of war who are being repatriated from Germany. The three ships bringing home the men left Gothenburg, Sweden, on Thursday morning, and are expected to reach this country on Monday.**

The local men whose relatives have been informed by the War Office that their names are included in the list of prisoners to be exchanged are:-

Sapper Richard Maurice Dale Chapman, third son of the Rector of Goldsborough, the Rev. J. F. Dale Chapman and Mrs Chapman.

Driver Jack Nicholson, husband of Mrs Nicholson, 14 Park Close, Knaresborough.

Pte. Geoffrey Cleasby, son of Mrs Cleasby, 4 Park Avenue, Knaresborough.

- 30 Pte. Robert Pollard, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R. H. Pollard, 26 Hambleton Grove, Knaresborough.

The Rector of Goldsborough is chaplain to the Knaresborough and Harrogate P.O.W. clubs, and acts as chairman of the Knaresborough club, of which Mrs Cleasby is hon. Secretary.

### **Stayed with Wounded**

Pte. Cleasby, who is 26, was formerly employed by Messrs. W. B. Moss and Sons, grocers, at their Knaresborough shop. He was organist and choirmaster at Holy Trinity Church, and had previously held a similar post at Aldborough Church. He joined the R.A.M.C. in April 1940, and went to the Middle East in June 1941. He went through the bitter campaign in Crete, and when the island was evacuated, volunteered to remain behind with the wounded. He was reported missing in July, and Mrs Cleasby later learned from an enemy source that he was a prisoner. He has been at Stalag 3D, near Berlin.

10 Mrs Cleasby received her intimation from the War Office on Thursday morning. "It was lovely news," she said. "I was so excited I didn't know what to do with myself, so I went up to the P./O.W. packing centre at Harrogate to get cooled down a bit." Mrs Cleasby has been a helper at the centre since it was opened.

Mrs Cleasby said Geoffrey had not mentioned in his letters that there was a possibility of his being sent home. He had spoken of organising concerts at the camp, and said he had been working in the hospital. In his last letter, he said he had been playing football and mentioned that the prisoners had started a league, with a team from each room. "Next week," he added, "we start the cup competition."

### **Two Years in Hospital**

20 Pte. Pollard is the eldest son of Mr R. H. Pollard, a railway guard, and Mrs Pollard, who have three other sons, Sidney, Eric and Kenneth, in the Army. He is 30. He joined the Middlesex Regiment when he was 17 and after serving for seven years returned to Yorkshire to take the post of cook for the officers mess at an R.A.F. camp.

**Knaresborough Post**

**30 October 1943**

# **REPATRIATED**

## **PRISONERS OF WAR**

### **Two Knaresborough Men Reach Home**

#### **GERMANS “KNOW THEY HAVE LOST THE WAR.”**

The four men from the Knaresborough district among the prisoners of war repatriated from Germany last weekend all arrived safely in this country, three at Leith on Monday and one at Liverpool on Tuesday, and two of them, Pte. R. Pollard and Pte. G. Cleasby, reached their homes on Thursday.

10

#### **Second Arrival**

The second prisoner of war to arrive in Knaresborough was Pte. Cleasby, son of Mrs Cleasby, 4 Park Avenue, who came by train from a depot in the South of England late on Thursday night. He was greeted at the station by his mother and fiancée and a number of other relatives and friends. He was looking extremely well, but said he was tired and looking forward to a good sleep. He came to this country with the party which arrived at Leith on Monday.

**Knaresborough Post**

**30 October 1943**



**Knaresborough Post**

**6 November 1943**

**REPATRIATED PRISONERS**

**Knaresborough and Goldsborough Men Home**

- 10 All four of the repatriated prisoners of war from the Knaresborough district were safely home by last weekend. As reported in our last issue, Pte. Robert Pollard, of Hambleton Grove, and Pte. Geoffrey Cleasby, of Park Avenue, reached Knaresborough last Thursday and on Friday evening Driver Jack Nicholson, of Park Close, and Sapper R. M. D. Chapman, son of the Rector of Goldsborough and Mrs. Chapman, also arrived.

Driver Nicholson and Sapper Chapman came by train from a hospital in the South and were warmly welcomed. At Goldsborough, when it was learned that Sapper Chapman was approaching the village by car, people attending a whist drive in the school turned out and gave him an enthusiastic reception. The repatriated men on Saturday attended the plaque exchange ceremony at Knaresborough, and were officially welcomed by the Chairman of the Urban Council, Coun. P. Broadbelt. Later, they were entertained to dinner.

### Knaresborough Post

6 November 1943

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Coun. P. Broadbelt (Chairman of Knaresborough Urban Council) and a cheering crowd, welcoming the local prisoners of war just repatriated. (Left to right) Pte. G. Cleasby, Spr. R. M. D. Chapman, Pte. R. Pollard, and Dvr. J. Nicholson. [Staff Photo]

**Knaresborough Post**

**6 November 1943**

**SCRIVEN**

10 **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.** – The monthly meeting was held at the Hut on Monday, Mrs Jacob Smith presided. The M.O.I. films that were shown on October 29<sup>th</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup> were considered a great success. The one on the latter date was of "Gardening," the showing of which was arranged by Mr J. Foster, secretary of the Allotment Holders' Association. Miss Howard read her report as delegate to the annual meeting at York. This was followed by an interesting talk illustrated by lantern slides and films on Norway by Mrs Franks. A talk on "Household Jobs" is to be given by Mrs Renton Taylor at the December meeting.

**Knaresborough Post**

**13 November 1943**

**P.O.W. Appeal.**- An appeal is made by Mrs Cleasby, hon. Secretary of Knaresborough P.O.W. Club, and mother of one of the repatriated prisoners of war who recently returned to Knaresborough, for gifts for a sale to held in Scriven Women's Institute on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, for Christmas gifts for prisoners of war. Mrs Cleasby acknowledges with thanks gifts of aeroplane and ship models from Billy Shepherd, Park Avenue.

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**Knaresborough Post**

**13 November 1943**

**Safe Driving.** – Miss Joyce Whitaker, Corner Croft, Scriven Road, Knaresborough, was one of the three L.N.E.R. women motor drivers who received safe driving awards of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents at Harrogate last week. The presentations were made by the Mayoress, Mrs G. C. Stephenson.

Knareborough Post

20 November 1943

## PRESUMED KILLED

### FLYING OFFICER ROY CARTWRIGHT

Flying Officer Roy Cartwright (21) R.A.F.V.R., only son of Mrs Cartwright and the late Mr A. V. D. Cartwright, "El-Encanto," Victoria Avenue, Knareborough, who was reported missing from operations in the Mediterranean in April, is now presumed killed. An old pupil of King James's Grammar School, he was in a Civil Service department in Leeds before joining the R.A.F. three years ago. He played rugby for Harrogate Old Boys.

- 10 Flying Officer Cartwright had gone out to Malta a few weeks before he was reported missing. In a letter to Mrs Cartwright, his commanding officer describes Flying Officer Cartwright as "A fine pilot and a born fighter," and says his loss has been deeply felt by the whole squadron.

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- 20 **At Toc H.** – Members of Knareborough Toc H branch had the pleasure, at their meeting on Tuesday, of hearing an account of his adventures from Private Geoffrey Cleasby, one of the local prisoners of war recently repatriated. Also present were boys of the Army Cadet unit, and appreciation of the good work being done by Toc H among the cadets was expressed by the area padre, the Rev. Shaun Heron, of Leeds, who was visiting the branch. The Rev. E. H. Holland deputised into the chair for Cadet-Lieut. J. B. Topham.

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25 December 1943

## KNARESBOROUGH P.O.W. BAZAAR

### CHRISTMAS SALE RAISES £104

- 30 The net proceeds of the Christmas bazaar held in Scriven W.I. last week in aid of Knareborough P.O.W. Club amounted to £104. Thanks are expressed by Mrs Cleasby, hon. Secretary, to all helpers, especially Mrs Iveson and the children of Lynwood School for their performance, Miss Cresswell for the sale of cards and calendars, which realised £8. 4s. 10½d., Miss Anderson for the gift of a cloth, which produced £41. 16s., and Miss Howard for the gift of a bag. The committee also acknowledges with thanks a donation of £7. 10s from Christ Spiritual Church.



## **Knaresborough Post**

**25 December 1943**

**Yule Logs** – The staff and workmen on the Scriven Estate have received their usual Christmas gift of a load of logs from Major T. W. Slingsby, who continues an old custom of the Slingsby family. Major Slingsby has also given a large Christmas tree to Conyngham Hall hospital.