

## VE-DAY – IT'S ALL OVER

### All quiet till 9 pm – then crowds went mad HOW LEAMINGTON AND DISTRICT CELEBRATED VICTORY

The Lights go up again after Six Years of Gloom

News of the end of hostilities in Europe was officially announced by Mr. Churchill at 3 o'clock on Tuesday, a day proclaimed as VE-Day to be marked by heart-felt thanksgivings and rejoicings.

The announcement was somewhat in the nature of an anti-climax for we had been told overnight that it would come the time mentioned. Indeed, the manner in which the war ended confounded the prophets and confused the planners.



V.E. Day street party, Leamington Spa. 1945

However, the celebrations lost nothing of their spontaneity, in consequence, and the people of Leamington and district shared with the rest of their countrymen a sense of profound relief that the dangers and hazards of war were no more to be endured in the European theatre.

The first impulse of large numbers was to attend one or other of the many places of worship which had made special arrangements for the holding of thanksgiving services, and as night came crowds gathered in the streets to "celebrate."

A huge crowd in the Pump Room Gardens listened to the relay of the King's Speech at 9 o'clock. Dancing followed, and the crowds then moved to the brightly-lighted thoroughfares, where there was more dancing and singing to the tunes of accordions.

In the absence of any officially organised festivity, the townspeople rose to the occasion marvellously, and in their own ways expressed their jubilation that the end of the war had come. The floodlighting of the Parish Church attracted much admiration, and it was noted that the inclusion of the north side added greatly to the beauty of the scene. The fountains in the Jephson Gardens were illuminated, as also was the War Memorial.

Flags and bunting were to be seen everywhere. The Parade was modestly treated, and was easily eclipsed by several minor streets which sported national emblems, the like of which have probably never been previously seen in Leamington. Where all the flags came from is something of a mystery, but residents went to great pains to make attractive displays. Satchwell Street, Kenilworth Street, and Shrubland Street were outstanding, but they had many rivals in their efforts for gaiety. Church Street, too, was well beflagged and it had another attractive feature in Bob Chimes band, which officiated at a street party for children. Some 50 were taken to a cinema on Wednesday, and out of the money subscribed, a substantial balance remains for a future visit.

Gaveston Road celebrated by burning an effigy of Hitler, and well and truly they rejoiced in the process.

Admission to the Jephson Gardens on both days was free, and remained open until a late hour.

Many people made their way to Stoneleigh Park, where in the American camp they joined in the celebrations of our Allies.

Wednesday was gloriously fine, and "everywhere was crowded," especially the dancing in the Pump Room Gardens.

Licensed houses had an extension of half an hour on Tuesday evening with the result that some were unable to "stay the course" on Wednesday. The beer had gone.

Preparations to illuminate Linden Avenue had been made, but there was a disappointment on Tuesday night. Owing to a technical hitch the fairy lights could not be turned on, but on Wednesday evening, they appeared in all their pristine glory.

Street tea parties for children were very enjoyable and jolly affairs, and our pictures show some of the jollifications in progress.

A victory party held in Taylor Avenue was organised by Mrs. Farey and Mrs. Collins assisted by all the neighbours. Miss Sheila Butler was crowned the Victory Queen by A B Seaman Eric Pratt. She was attended by the Misses Geraldine Mullis, Carol Farey, Jean Harris, Joan Batchelor, Feaba Butler, and Master Maurice Norton was page boy. After the ceremony the Victory Queen declared the "V" party open. Approximately 40 children sat down to tea. There was a two-tier Victory cake. The party went on until 9 o'clock, when each child was given a present, bag of sweets and an orange, and the winners of the races, etc., presented with their prizes.

After the children had gone to bed the grown-ups indulged in dancing and games to music provided by Mr. Farey. Cheers were given for "the Boys in Burma."

### VE DAY WEATHER

Strait of Dover yesterday: Victory weather with hours of sunshine, Day temperature, 69 deg.

## HARBORO' VILLAGES TO HAVE AN ELECTION AFTER ALL

VILLAGES on the Northamptonshire side of Market Harborough, including Clipston, Sibbertoft, Welford, Marston Trussell, Oxendon, Braybrooke, Stoke Albany, Ashley, Sutton Bassett, Weston-by-Welland, Brampton, East Farndon, Wilbarston, Naseby, and others, are to have a parliamentary election after all.

Events moved with dramatic quickness in the Kettering by-election on Monday. Mr. J.A. Whitehead, of Potton, Beds., who had been expected to combat the election as an Agriculturist Candidate, announced his decision not to stand after all; and the same evening a Corby steelworker, Councillor W. Ross, was adopted as Workers' and Pensioners' Anti-War Candidate by a meeting of the Workers' and Pensioners' Group. Nomination papers of both these candidates were handed in on Tuesday, nomination day, to the Deputy Acting Returning Officer (Mr. John Chaston) at the Town Council Offices, Kettering.

Mr. Profumo was the first to hand in his papers, arriving at the Town Council Offices at 10.45 a.m. He was accompanied by Ald. Ernest Woodcock, J.P. (chairman of Kettering Divisional Conservative Association), Mrs. Wentworth Watson, Capt. Frank Barron (his agent for the by-election) and friends.

THERE were 73 nomination papers for Mr Profumo. Mr. Ross's supporters contenting themselves with a single one. Mr. Profumo's first paper was:-

PROFUMO, JOHN DENNIS, *Avon Carrow, Avon Dassett, Warwickshire. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, 1<sup>st</sup> Northamptonshire Yeomanry (National Conservative). Proposer: Robert Ernest William Woodcock, 1, The Drive, Kettering. Seconder: Evelyn Frances Watson, Stoke Albany.*

*Assentors: Stephen Behillast Loddington Hall; Violet Georgina Borwick, Haselbech Hill; Donald Forbes Underwood, Highlands, Kettering; Arthur Edward Fifield, Barton Seagrave; Helen Annie Panther, Boughton Hall; Hilda Madeleine Bates, Great Oxenden; Harry Martin, 294, London Road, Kettering; and Malcolm Borwick, Haselbech Hill.*

There were 72 other papers.

About an hour later, about ten minutes before noon, when the office closed for the receipt of nominations. Coun. W. Ross handed in his only paper to the Deputy Acting Returning Officer. He was accompanied by Coun G B Smith, C.C., Coun T F De la Court, Mr J T Cole (president of Kettering Pensioners' Parliament) and several friends.

### Mr Profumo Made Politics his Career

Now serving as a Lieutenant in the Northants Yeomanry. Mr. Profumo was educated at Harrow and Oxford, securing a degree in agricultural and political economy, and distinguished himself at sport. He decided while at college to make politics his career, and to complete his education he took a world trip alone. Afterwards he started political work in the East Fulham Conservative Association of which he became chairman and on several occasions he visited Geneva for meetings of the League of Nations and an international labour conference.

### An air pilot.

Mr. Profumo toured several European countries by plane in 1938 to make a study of the economic conditions. He is the elder son of Baron Albert Profumo, K.C., of Avon Dassett, Warwickshire.

### Fearless in Council.

Coun Ross was returned as a Labour member of Corby's new Urban Council at the first elections in March last year.

The figures in the Forest Gate Ward in which he stood were: J Wallace (Lab) 354. A Barr (Ind.) 332. W Ross (Lab) 323. and W. Roe (Ind) 279

Coun Ross is chairman of the Library Committee and serves on the health, housing, recreation ground and rating and valuation committees. He is a member of the Corby Food Control Committee. Never once has Coun Ross given a trace of his attitude towards the war in his speeches at Urban Council meetings. He was one of the principal councillors to urge for the speedy erection of public air-raid shelters in the town.

He lives with his wife and two daughters in one of Stewarts and Lloyds estate houses — 77, West Glebe Road.

Coun Ross, who is 38, is a married man with two daughters, aged 18 and 16—Miss Nettie Ross and Miss Cathie Ross, who are employed at Kettering.

He came down to Corby from Glasgow three years ago and has been employed at Corby works.



Mr. John Profumo Becomes Youngest M.P.

### ELECTION RESULT WHICH "GIVES GOEBBELS THE STOMACH-ACHE."

Mr John Profumo, son of Baron Profumo, of Avon Dassett, was yesterday elected M.P. for Kettering. At the age of 25 he becomes the youngest member of the House Commons.

The by-election was caused by the appointment of Mr. J. F. Eastwood, K.C., as a Metropolitan magistrate.

The figures were:— Mr. J. Profumo (Cons.) ... 17,914  
 Mr. W. Ross (Workers' and Pensioners Anti-war candidate) ... 6,616

Majority 11,298

After the declaration Mr. Profumo said, "I am delighted with the result. The electorate of the Kettering Division have demonstrated their loyalty and determination that not even political principles shall deter them from the resolve to unite on the one vital issue lies ahead of us to-day – that of bringing the war to a speedy and just conclusion. I only hope that the result gives Goebbels stomach ache."

March 1940

### War heroine's daughter to marry

Miss Celia Moore, daughter of Capt. Charles Moore and the late Lady Dorothea Moore of Mooresfort, Tipperary, and the Pavilion, Hampton Court Palace, is to marry, it is announced to-day. Lady Dorothea was awarded the M.M. in the last war, when in Flanders she drove an ambulance under shellfire. Capt. Moore was appointed racing manager to the King in 1937. Miss Moore is engaged to Mr. C. P. M. Worrall of the Devonshire Regiment, son of Col. P. R. Worrall and Mrs. Worrall, of Bitham Hall, Avon Dassett, Warwickshire.



### Marriage of Capt. C. P. M. Worrall and Miss C. M. Moore Ceremony at Avon Dassett

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Joseph's, Avon Dassett of Capt. Claude P. M. Worrall, The Devonshire Regiment, second son of Colonel and Mrs P. R. Worrall of Bitham Hall, Avon Dassett and Miss Celia Mary Moore, second daughter of Captain Charles Moore and the late Lady Dorothea Moore, of The Pavilion, Hampton Court Palace, and Mooresfort, Tipperary. The Abbot of Downside and Dom Rudesind Brookes, O.S.B., officiated.

The bride who was given away by her father, wore a gown of white satin romaine with a veil of white tulle, and she carried a bouquet of stephanotis. Her diamond brooch was a gift from her father. Miss Helen Worrall (sister of the bridegroom) and Miss Edith Moore (sister of the bride) were bridesmaids. They wore ice-blue dresses with head-dresses of burgundy-red ostrich feathers and blue veiling, and they carried bouquets of love-in-a-mist and red carnations. Mr. William Worrall, Welsh Guards, was best man. The reception was held at Bitham Hall.

October 1940



## AVON DASSETT CROSS-ROADS ACCIDENT TWO IN HOSPITAL

Mr. R. Shepherd, aged 50, of Frogmore Farm, Fenn End, Kenilworth while driving his car on Friday, came into collision with a lorry at the Avon Dasset cross-roads. He and a passenger Helen Horne, aged 31, a member of the W.A.A.F., both sustained head injuries and were admitted to the Horton General Hospital, where they are detained.

July 1942

### Possession Of Cottage Ordered

A claim was brought by Mr. Thomas Clement Hall, of Knights Farm, Avon Dasset, for possession of a cottage on the farm, occupied Mr. F. W. Bishop.

Mr. F. W. Blincowe (Messrs. Fairfax, Barfield and Co.), for plaintiff, said that the premises were required for an agricultural worker. Mr. Hall farmed a very large acreage and all the help he now had was three men over military age. A W.A.C. certificate was produced in support of the application. The applicant himself was still suffering from wounds received in the last war and was unable to do very much on the farm - all factors substantiating that an extra man was needed - and the cottage would be required to house him.

For the defendant Mr. E. C. Fortescue (Messrs. Stockton, Sons and Fortescue) pointed out that Mr. Bishop was elderly man who was engaged on war work. Two of his three daughters were in the same firm's employment, and if an order was made it would constitute great hardship and would mean three essential war workers lost to the country, as no other accommodation was available from which they could reach their place of business. As it was they had to rise at about 4 a.m. to ensure getting to work in time.

Judge Forbes said that it was a very difficult case. He had, however, recently received some guidance on a similar question at the hands of the Master of the Rolls. Not wishing to put the Bishop family in the street, however, he would order possession to be taken not earlier than January 15th next, which would give the defendants some three months to try to get fixed.

October 1943

## Brothers Fined

Robert Alfred Hughes, Avon Dasset, farm labourer, was summoned for driving a motor vehicle and trailer on the road without driving licence on November 5th, at Langdon's Lane, Radway, also for not being insured against third party risks, and having no registration mark affixed. His brother, Hugh Tegvan Hughes, of Braggins Farm, Warmington, farmer, was summoned for permitting the three offences.

Mr. Stockton, (Banbury) defended in each case, and the pleas were "guilty."

P.C. Setterfield said he saw Robert Hughes collecting pig swill and saw no identification mark or road fund licence displayed. Defendant told him his driving licence and certificate of insurance were at home.

P.C. Swanson stated that the certificate of insurance was afterwards produced to him. It transpired that the insurance became ineffective as the driver had no driving licence.

Mr. Stockton said Robert Hughes was only carrying out the instructions given him by his brother. At the back of the trailer, the number plates were covered by mud, so that the number could not be seen. It was not deliberate. Both defendants were doing work of national importance. The vehicle was used between the two parts of the farm, but they pleaded guilty to a technical offence by going off their paths to pick up pig swill.

Robert Hughes was fined 4/- each case, making a total of 12/- Hugh Hughes, was fined 7/6 in each case, making a total of £1 2s. 6d. There was no disqualification.

December 1944

## How Land Girl Was Killed

The death 19-year-old Land Girl named Margaret Elizabeth Butterworth, who was killed while cycling to her work on the farm of Mr. W. Hobbs, Avon Dasset, formed the subject of an Inquest conducted by Mr. H. Stephen Tibbits at the Gaydon Inn on Saturday.

The evidence showed that Miss Butterworth, accompanied by another Land Girl, named Joan Hilda Batson, was proceeding along the Kineton-Edgehill Road in the direction of Edgehill about 7.30 a.m., on April 15th, an Army vehicle known a dumper overtook the two girls, and as it was passing them it struck Miss Butterworth at the back the head and fractured her skull.

The driver of the vehicle, Sapper Walter Motley said that at the time of the accident his speed was 10 to 12 m.p.h., as he was passing the girls the vehicle seemed to swerve to the left. He tried to stop it but the steering seemed to be locked. He applied the foot brake and the dumper went to the right, across the road and through the hedge. When it first swerved to the left he saw the bucket strike Miss Butterworth on the crown the head. If it were not faulty steering-gear he could not say what the cause of the accident was.

In reply to the foreman of the jury (Mr. H. Clifford Burgis), witness said the vehicle was capable of a speed of 30 m.p.h., but there was no means of checking the speed. The driver had to rely upon his judgment.

Similar evidence was given by Sapper G. C. Smith, who said that he was riding on the dumper as a passenger at the time of the accident.

Miss J. H. Batson said she and the deceased first passed the dumper near the Radway turn. She recognised it because it bore the name "Josie" and on a previous occasion when she saw steam coming from the radiator she had remarked to her friend, "That is Josie boiling over." When she first saw it on the morning of the accident, Sapper Smith was the driver. They had gone along the road some distance when she heard the dumper approaching them again. It seemed to "roar" towards them. She heard shouting and the piping of a horn,

## MP Discards Title

Second-Lieutenant John Profumo MP of Avon Dasset, Warwickshire in accordance with an intention approved of by his father, Baron Albert Profumo, K.C. who died recently, has decided not to assume the title of baron, borne by his father, but continues to be known as Mr Profumo.

April 1940

### County Farmer's Will Bequests By The Late Mr. Wadland, Avon Dasset.

Mr. Henry Wadland, of Avon Dasset, Warwickshire, retired farmer, who died on April 1 last, left £28,684 0s. 7d. gross, with net personalty £9,119 3s. 3d.

He left Knights Farm and Hill Farm upon trust to pay an annuity of £325 to his wife, and on her death £3,000 to his son Henry, £1,000 to his daughter Irene, £750 to his son Cecil, £500 each to his daughters Elizabeth and Mary, £250 to his grandson Harold Wadland, and subject thereto such farms to his son Richard; other land at Northend and Knightcote to his son Arthur (he paying £1,000 to testator's wife), and £500 to testator's son Cecil.

Property at Upper Boddington and £2,000 are left to his son Henry; his furniture to his wife; £1,000 to his daughter Elizabeth, £500 each to his children Cecil, Mary and Irene; £250 to his grandson Harold Wadland, £50 to Percy R. M. Jaggard; and the residue as to 19th to his wife, 29ths to his daughter Alice, and 19th each to his other six children.

June 1942

## AVON DASSETT A Great Success

The parish of Avon Dasset is to be congratulated on the success of the effort made last Saturday in aid of the fund for the Warwickshire ambulance. No less than £27 was raised by a jumble sale, there being six stalls. Dresses were in the charge of Mrs. Worrall and Mrs. Knight; woollens, Mrs. Corbally; miscellaneous, Lady Victoria de Trafford; men's, Mrs Seeley and Miss Holbeck; glass, hats and shoes, Miss de Trafford and Miss Mary Mould (niece of Mrs. Sumner). Colonel Trafford, Mr Knight and Mr. B Draper acted as gatekeepers and about 100 people were present. Visitors included Baroness Profumo, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Sumner. Mr and Mrs. Heeley, Dr. and Mrs Banham. and Miss Clemson.

May 1940

## Profumo Will

Baron Albert Profumo, K.C., Avon Dasset, Warwickshire, father of Mr. John D. Profumo, M.P. for Kettering, left £71,632 (n.p. £40,713). He left his property to his wife for life with the remainder to his children.

June 1940

## PEDAL CYCLISTS FINED

The following were fined for riding pedal cycles without regulation lights: Grace M. Bishop, of Avon Dasset (7s. 6d.).

October 1941

## Wills And Bequests

Mr. Francis George Sumner, of Orchard Lodge, Avon Dasset, formerly of Dene House, Kineton, a J.P. for Derbyshire and Warwickshire, left estate of the gross value of £10433, with net personalty £3,852. He left £250 and certain effects to his wife, funds and property over which he had power of appointment to his son John, and the residue of the property upon trust for his wife during widowhood, and then his residence and other freehold and leasehold property to his said son for life, with remainder to his children, and the remainder to his son absolutely.

July 1941

Mr Lionel Healey, of Avon Dasset, left £1,446 (net personalty £1,374).

March 1942

Mr. Henry Wadland, of Avon Dasset, retired farmer, left £28,684 (net personalty £9,119).

June 1942

## Rugby And Southam Area Home Delivery Ruling

In the Southam area retailers may deliver, subject to the restriction, within a radius of approximately three miles from the centre of Southam in the direction of Long Itchington; within a radius of approximately five miles from the centre of Southam in the direction of Upper Shuckburgh, Priors Marston, Stoneton and Chasteton; and within 7 miles towards Chadshunt, Avon Dasset and Farnborough.

Every retailer has full particulars of the distance to which he may deliver, and the public are advised, before they renew their registrations, to consult their present supplier to make sure whether he can deliver to them within his permitted limits. If he cannot do so, customers should arrange to re-register with another retailer for rationed goods, or to buy unrationed goods, from a shop nearer their homes, and so come within a permitted delivery area.

June 1942

### Council Appointment

Avon Dasset Parish Council wrote nominating Col. Worrall as a Rural District Councillor in place of the late Mr Healey. - The Council approved.

August 1942

### Warwick Assize HUSBAND SENTENCED FOR WOUNDING

Warwick Assizes opened yesterday before the Commissioner (Sir Walter Monckton, K.C.). There were thirteen prisoners for trial.

Ernest Arthur Farley (31), roller man, pleaded guilty to wounding his wife with intent to murder her in Burton Dasset.

It was alleged that Farley, having established a friendship with another woman, first attempted to persuade his wife to drink a solution which had made from rat poison. She refused. Later he attacked her with a carving knife, inflicting a wound on her throat, and tried to strangle her.

Farley was sentenced to twenty one months hard labour.

July 1943

### KINETON PETTY SESSIONS

Before Mr. J. Fielden (Chairman), Col. W. Pepys, the Hon. Mrs. Hanbury, Mrs. Geare, Lt.Col. J. H. Starkey, and Mr. H. Green.

Unlicensed Dogs.— For keeping dogs without licences the following fines were imposed: Harry A. Welford, Old Farm House, Avon Dasset, 7s. 6d.

October 1941

### Fenny Compton - Young Farmers' Club.

A very successful social evening has been held by this newly-formed Club, when a further enrolment of over 40 members took place. This was followed up by a tractor ploughing demonstration last Saturday at Avon Dasset cross-roads in a field kindly lent by Mr. R. A. Wadland.

Various types of tractors and ploughs of two, three and four furrows were provided Mr. Brooks, Warmington, and the Warwickshire W.A.E.C. The arrangements in connection with the latter were carried out by Mr. Clyde Higgs and Mr. Pattison, whose assistance was invaluable. The chief demonstrator, Mr. Smith (the County Machinery Officer), made suggestions which were greatly appreciated. The correct setting of the different types of plough was shown, together with the proper method of setting out a field, and the opening and finishing of lands, also the general maintenance of both tractors and ploughs. On view were some broken parts of machines, showing how easily neglect of either setting or management can cause breakages. It is hoped that these hints will further raise the standard of ploughing the district.

October 1942

## ROAD REPAIRS

The County Surveyor reported that much damage had been caused to bridge parapet walls during the last few months, in the main by service vehicles and particularly those of the United States army, but this sort of thing seemed inevitable in conditions such as we were all living in at the present time, and generally they were able to recover the costs of reinstatement from the authorities, excepting in occasional cases where the vehicle which has caused the damage cannot be traced. The reinstatement and repairs were naturally very difficult to get carried out. In these times, and delay occasionally occurs before these reinstatements can be effected.

Considerable damage had been caused to county roads in the vicinity of Avon Dasset and Fenny Compton, Kineton and Radway. While some of this damage is such that repairs must be completed before the onset of next winter to prevent further deterioration, on the other hand there are appreciable lengths of road where resurfacing will be required to restore them to their former condition, but this work is such as can quite well be left over until the position with regard to labour and materials is much easier than it is at the present time. An estimate was therefore being prepared to differentiate between these two categories and, when completed, it was intended to submit it to the Divisional Road Engineer for total reimbursement. Further details with regard to these roads would be submitted to the Committee.

July 1944

### METHODIST MEETING

The Methodist Quarterly Meeting was held at Kineton Methodist Church on Monday, when there was a record attendance from the Circuit. The Rev. A. Bateson (Superintendent of the Banbury Circuit) deputised for the Chairman of the District, as is customary once year. Mr. H. C. Lewis (senior Circuit Steward) presented the accounts, showing a balance hand of £200. The membership was reported to be 263 full members and four on trial. Mr. E. C. Lewis (Kineton) and Mr. Clark Greenway (Tysoe) were re-elected Circuit Stewards. Mr. J. B. Fisher of Kineton, was re-elected secretary of the quarterly meeting, and Miss A. W. Rawlins was appointed Youth secretary. The Rev. S. L. Lane, C.E., was unanimously invited remain in the Circuit as Superintendent Minister for a further three years, making a total of nine years. Regret was expressed at the passing of Mr. Fred Gardner (Radway), and Mrs. Ernest Knight (Fenny Compton). It was decided to set aside a day's collections towards the renovation of the Avon Dasset Church.

December 1943

### AVON DASSETT Methodist Church

Re-opening services (alter the renovation) took place Sunday. The Rev. S. L. Lane, C.E., of the Kineton Methodist Circuit, was the preacher each service. A collection was made throughout all the churches the Kineton Circuit towards the cost of renovating.

April 1944

## Profumo MP INJURED

Major John Profumo, MP, son of the late Baron Profumo, of Avon Dasset, who volunteered for service in North Africa in November, has been injured in a road accident. A military motor-cycle he was riding was involved in collision with an army lorry. Both his shoulders were injured, and one is in plaster. He also received cuts on his nose and face. He expressed the wish that he should not be sent to hospital, but allowed to remain with his unit. It is understood that he is now able to continue duty with the aid of sticks.

February 1943

### WEDDINGS

The Rt. Rev. Abbott T. R. Leonard, O.S.B., officiated at the marriage at St. Joseph's Church, Avon Dasset, between Officer-Cadet John Hadland, R.E., only son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Hadland, of Barbourne, Worcester, and Lance-Corporal Winefride Mary Teresa Sealey, A.T.S., elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. Sealey, of Bitham Lodge, Avon Dasset.

The bride wore a gown of white satin, with veil and wreath of orange blossom, and carried a bouquet of pink roses. The bridesmaids were Miss Mildred Sealey (sister of the bride), and Miss Dolores Wickstead. They were dressed in blue taffeta and carried sweet peas and gypsophilia.

Nearly forty guests attended the reception, held at Bitham Hall by kind permission of Col. and Mrs. P. R. Worrall. Many wedding gifts were received.

September 1942

### BRADY-WICKHAM

The wedding took place at St. Joseph's, Avon Dasset, on Wednesday afternoon last week, of Mr. Daniel Brady, second son of Mr. and the late Mrs. Brady, of Killugh, Offaly (Ireland) and Mrs. Ella May Wickham (widow), daughter of Mr and Mrs. Lovesey, Gaydon, Warwick. The Rev. Father Abbott was the officiating clergyman. The bride, who was given away by her brother, wore a dress of sea blue crepe marocain. The bridesmaids were Miss Irene Hammond and Miss Janet Lovesey (nieces of the bride), both of them being attired in flowered blue silk.

Sixty guests were present at the reception held at the Village Hall, the room had been tastefully decorated by Mrs. A. W. Trelliving. The going-away dress of the bride was a navy blue costume and accessories. The bride, who is a Red Cross nurse, was the recipient of many and valuable presents. The future residence of Mr. and Mrs. Brady will be at Gaydon.

August 1943

### WORRALL-MOORE

Capt. William Worrall, M.C., Welsh Guards, eldest son Col. P. R. Worrall, D.S.O. M.C. and Mrs. Worrall, Bitham Hall, Avon Dasset, Warwickshire, is to marry Miss Edie Moore, third daughter of Capt. Charles Moore, M.C., and the late Lady Dorothy Moore, it is announced to-day. Capt. Charles Moore was appointed racing manager to the King in 1937.

September 1944

### ENGAGEMENT

### CORBALLY-TUDSBERY

T/Major M. J. P. M. Corbally and Miss D. C. Tudsbery. The engagement is announced between T/Major Patrick Corbally, The Royal Ulster Rifles, elder son of the late Captain L. Corbally, R.F.A. and Mrs. Corbally, of The Old House, Avon Dasset, Warwickshire and Miss H. T. Tudsbery (Subaltern, A.T.S.) younger daughter of Colonel and Mrs H. T. Tudsbery, of Southtown, Lymington, South Devon.

August 1943

FOR SALE Baby Austin 7 Saloon Car, 1939 model, in excellent condition - Apply Mrs Worrall, Bitham Hall, Avon Dasset

April 1943

### WOMAN WANTED

UNDER Nurse for R.A.F. Officer and wife, two children months and 2 years, mod. labour saving flat, country dist., nr. Banbury—Mrs McIntyre, The Rectory, Avon Dasset, Leamington Spa.

April 1944

### AVON DASSETT

Thanksgiving Mr. F. W. Duckett, of Kineton, conducted harvest services at the Methodist Church. Numerous gifts of flowers and produce had been received.

September 1944

## Nursing Associatton

The Edge Hill Nursing Association held its annual meeting at Radway on May 1st, when Viscountess Bearsted presided. The Association covers a very large area, taking in the villages of Oxhill, Whatcote, Tysoe, Radway, Avon Dasset, Ratley Upton, Arlescote, Warmington, Shotteswell, Farnborough and Edgehill. Nurse Hunt during the year paid a total of 2,237 visits. The financial statement showed a small balance in hand, thanks to the following sums having been raised by special efforts: Farnborough, £9; Radway, £7 2s.; Ratley, £13 10s. 6d.; and Tysoe, £28 2s. With such a large area to cover, wear and tear on the car is very heavy, and the committee wish to start a depreciation fund towards the cost of a new car which will be needed before very long. It is hoped that all the villages in the Association will make a special effort this year to raise money for the fund. The Committee passed vote of thanks to Mr. Blueglass for his great kindness and help in keeping and auditing the accounts.

May 1943

### The Whist Drive

held in the Village School in aid of the Red Cross and St. John Fund (Prisoners of War) was great success, and the sum of £50 has been sent to the fund. Winners of the raffle were; Chicken, Mrs. Andrews, Farnborough; bottle of port, Mrs. D. Spike Avon Dasset; and cigarettes, Mr. Sidwell, Northend. The organisers wish to thank all those who supported them in their endeavour.

January 1944

### Profumo Commission

Mr Philip Profumo, son of the late Baron Profumo, Avon Dasset, has been granted a commission in the Life Guards. He came down from Oxford a year before the end of his term in order to join the ranks of the Life Guards, which he has served as a trooper since the outbreak of war.

August 1940

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August 1940



# Remembering Relatives Who Served

Below are a series of stories shared by villagers whose relatives served during the Second World War.

**My half-brother, Vic Mason** (also from the village), was in a boat that hit the beaches in the D-Day Landings. Vic survived, but passed away (in Spain) a few years ago.

According to stories, the village was hit by a bomb, dropped by a German plane, while it was being chased back to Germany. The bomb landed somewhere at the bottom of Aron Carrow gardens, and a bit of wood shot up into the air, and landed in the roof of the cottage somewhere in Lower End. Reg Watts

**John Wilson Mephail Mitchell** DOB 20-10-1910. Enlisted the Lifeguards 19-10-1939 in Coventry. Transferred to Reserves 06-11-1945. Discharged 03-03-1946. Captured in Libya 06-04-1941 whilst driving two four star generals Neame and O'Connor. He was taken to a POW camp in Italy. His wife (my mother) was told he was missing in action. She later had a letter from the Red Cross to say he was alive. She also had a letter from the then Pope to confirm this.

Italy surrendered in 1943. The camp guards deserted their posts when the Allies started to make their way up Italy. This is when POWs hid in the hills and only ventured into the local villages after dark. The Italian would give them food and drink at great risk to themselves and their families. We think he spent the final two years in Palestine. We do not know a lot more as he did like to talk about it much.

Sandy Mitchell

During the Second World War, from 1940 to 1946, my paternal grandfather Sapper Walter Charlesworth (1904-1971) of the Royal Engineers was a Bomb Disposal Expert.

Having worked as a painter and decorator in civilian life, clearly a steady hand and good coordination were vital assets. He worked away from home in Stalybridge, Cheshire down in the South of England, returning home on leave to his wife and many children (my Dad is one of ten).

Walter sometimes came home with surprises. He was working in London as part of the UXB team defusing V1 rockets. He met a Canadian soldier who had smuggled his husky dog onto the troop carrier ship from Canada to Britain, and she gave birth to a litter of puppies during the voyage. And so it was that the Charlesworth family acquired a husky puppy, called Laddie. Laddie would howl enthusiastically when the air raid sirens went off.

Another surprise was a mortar bomb, which Walter had removed the detonator from, to show the family what he was doing towards the war effort. Eventually the mortar bomb was to surprise the whole town of Stalybridge. When my grandmother died, and the house had been sold, the new owners discovered it in the cellar and called out the Bomb Disposal Experts to deal with it. They evacuated that part of Stalybridge, and carefully removed the now unstable explosives within it. The mortar bomb is now in Chester Museum.

Walter was also involved in lifting and moving mines carefully from Brighton Beach in 1941-1942. They had been placed there in 1940 as part of the anti-invasion measures. They were desperately needed for the North Africa Campaign and were sent there. Walter was given several medals, one of which was the 1939-1945 Star. The Charlesworth family are extremely proud of the war work Walter did, although we would like to say sorry to Stalybridge for the mortar incident.

Julia Charlesworth

My father served with the 8th Army where, having been brought up by his Victorian grandmother, (his mother had died when he was very young) he described his Sergeant Major as the 'nicest person he had ever met'. He saw significant action in Italy where the 8th army made a landing at the beach head at Salerno. When I watched 'Saving Private Ryan' with him he commented - 'Yes that was very much what the landing was like. But for nearly 3.5 hours, not the 15 or so minutes in the film!' Once the platoon my father was with had obtained a foothold on the beach head his commanding officer needed a message to be delivered to the commanding officers of two other platoons approximately 1.5 miles away straight across the front line but the route would weave through sand dunes and cliff paths. Corporal Ron Hutt aged just 24 at the time (later promoted to Sergeant) was one of three men all given the same message and then sent to deliver the information leaving a gap of approximately 300 yards between each runner. Ron Hutt was the only one of the 3 to make it. The other 2 were killed on route.

After successfully making the landing the 8th army made its way steadily north, finishing towards the north east of Italy. His journey finished in Venice! A city very different from his home town of Nuneaton!

David Hutt

I remember my grandfather being a smallish man, with very dark thick hair and a black beard who smelled of beer. I knew he sailed the oceans in big ships but I thought he looked like and therefore in my young mind, must have been a pirate! I didn't get to know him well as my parents moved to Scotland, a long way from Hull where I was born and where all my relations lived. I was 6 years old at that time and my grandfather sadly died from cancer a short time later. Only through the research carried out more recently, did our family learn in greater detail the horror my grandfather endured as, like many men involved in the horrors of war, he never spoke of the terror he must have felt.

Grandad George Waddingham was born in Hull and joined the merchant navy as a young man. In April 1942 he signed on as the 2nd engineer aboard the SS Cape Corso, destined for Murmansk in Russia. The ship, although a merchant vessel, was loaded with tanks, planes, aviation spirit, torpedo warheads and ammunition - a floating bomb. It was part of a convoy (PQ15) consisting of 26 ships which came under attack shortly after leaving Iceland. Similar convoys had been sailing the route, known as the Murmansk Run and described by Churchill as the worst journey in the world, since the previous year. Most had been attacked by the enemy so the sailors were well aware of the dangers, not only of attack, but also the cruel Arctic conditions.

On 2nd May 1942 Cape Corso was hit amidship by a torpedo bomber. An eye witness from another ship in the convoy described there being 'one furious breath-taking explosion, a seething rose-coloured column of flame and in a few seconds only fragments descending into the water remained'.

Men on fire tried but failed to jump into the freezing waters, others jumped or were blown overboard. Life expectancy in the Arctic conditions was limited to about 5 minutes - we've all seen the film Titanic - and one Cape Corso survivor's tale tells of how he clung to a broken piece of raft with a West Indian fireman from the ship who quite quickly became delirious. It transpired that my grandfather was pulled from the water by those on an escort vessel after about 20 minutes and although he was initially left aside, assumed dead owing to the time that had passed, by chance someone noticed he was alive, just.

There were only 6 survivors from the crew of 56. They were left with burns and frostbite and only 2 of the 6 returned to sea: one ordinary seaman, who went on to become Captain Kenneth Allen of Hull and finally harbour master in Sydney, Australia, believed he was the only one of those survivors to return to sea. However, proved by the entries in my grandfather's seaman's log book which we have, he too overcame his nightmare and sailed again from Hull, albeit in peacetime, on a further 2 occasions before retiring. I wish I could tell him now that I see him as a very brave man, not a pirate!

Sandra Sandiford

My father, Jim Richardson, was a tank driver during World War II and was involved in the liberation of the Netherlands and demobilisation of German soldiers at the end of the war. The tanks went out in threes and the drivers would draw lots to determine which position they took. On many occasions the other two tanks were destroyed and my father lost many friends. My mother, Mair Phillips, was also involved in the war effort. In 1942, at the age of 18, she left her home in Llanelli, South Wales and moved to University College Hospital, London to train as a nurse. As a young nurse, she was often the only person on duty at night for her ward and had to cope with the incessant bombing of the capital as well as caring for patients. Her job was recognised to be so stressful that she was sent to Bletchley Park periodically for rest and recuperation.

Sarah Richardson

My grandfather's cousin, Sir Joseph Weld had a distinguished career in the army. From 1942-3 he was the first Territorial officer to be on the permanent staff of the Staff College in Camberley. Later in the war, as General Service Officer to Lord Louis Mountbatten, he made several journeys to liaise between South-East Asia command and the War Cabinet.

## Avon Dassett Villagers Who Served on the Home Front

Arthur Cooper, Farm Labourer, Air Raid Precautions Warden, Avon Dassett

Victoria de Trafford, Private Means, British Red Cross Organiser

Albert Golder, Groom, Air Raid Precautions Warden, Avon Dassett

Godfrey Golder, Chauffeur, Air Raid Precautions Warden, Warks County Council

Mary Hobson, Domestic Servant, Air Raid Precautions Warden, Southam

George Mason, Gardener, Air Raid Precautions Warden, Avon Dassett

Elizabeth Profumo, Private Means, Women's Voluntary Service

Martha Profumo, Private Means, Women's Voluntary Service

Mary Profumo, Private Means, Licensed Pilot

Elizabeth Siyell, Private Means, Ladies Guild London Homeopathic Hospital

Francis Stranks, Farmer, Special Constable, Warwickshire Constabulary

Norma Sumner, Commandant, British Red Cross

Source: 1939 Register

I am new to living in Avon Dassett. My father lived in another Warwickshire village, Ullenhall, not far from Tamworth in Arden, my mother came from Acocks Green, already a suburb of Birmingham. Avon Dassett was a destination for holiday and weekend expeditions.

Christopher Malcom Percy Willcox had been in the Merchant Marine, and took part in the north Atlantic convoy. By 1945 my Father was on shore again, he had been wounded, blinded in one eye. He married Betty, (a nurse) in 1946 joining Benton & Stone Ltd. (Birmingham engineering company) as an engineer. Marion Elizabeth Willcox nee Cadman (Betty) worked as a nurse in Birmingham for the duration at Dudley Road Hospital, which was in an area bombed and bombed again, because of the local industry including the Birmingham Small Arms (later BSA) factory.

Lorna Willcox (cousin, daughter of Cpt. Denis Willcox) WRNS worked at Bletchley Park (and we knew nothing of it, until sorting out papers after her death). Margaret Willcox (aunt) spent most of the years in Bermuda working in intelligence and in 1945 was posted into Germany for the pacification and re-organisation.

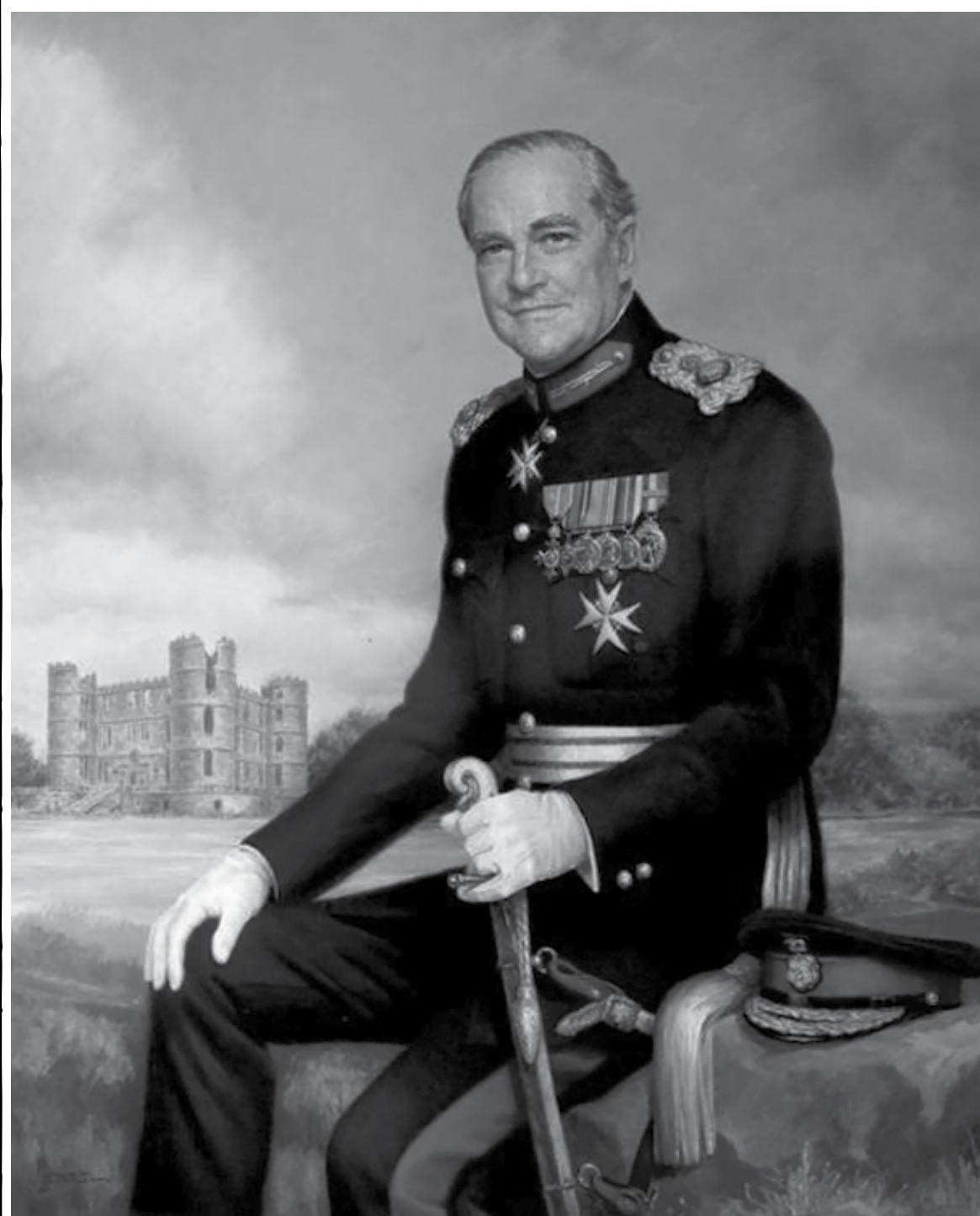
Keith Raymond Fairfax had joined the Royal navy as an engineer artificer and being so young, (born 1928) did not serve at sea before 1948. We married in 1973. Bernard Richard Fairfax; (brother-in-law) Captain, Royal Corps of Signals and Osmond Maurice Fairfax; (brother in law) Captain, Royal Navy.

Gina Fairfax

Even more dangerous was his visit to France after D-Day, when escorting Edwina Mountbatten who was visiting field hospitals behind the advancing allied armies. General Eisenhower flew them to France in his Flying Fortress, but Lady Mountbatten was determined to get near the front line. They transferred to a small aircraft but on the way to Nijmegen they strayed over

German lines at 400 feet. One engine was shot out but they managed to hedgehop to safety. He received an OBE in 1946 in recognition of his service. After the war he reformed the 4th Battalion, the Dorset Regiment and commanded it until 1951 when he became honorary colonel.

James Jackson



Colonel Sir Joseph William Weld (1909-1992), OBE, TD



## DEATH ON ACTIVE SERVICE

The death is announced on active service in the Far East in June, of Flt.-Lieut. Pyers Arthur Worrall, R.A.F., aged 21, son of Col. and Mrs. Percy B. Worrall, of Bitham Hall, Avon Dassett. Worrall was killed in a flying accident on 8th June 1942, aged 21. He was flying Hurricane IIB BM926 which crashed on take-off from Alipore. The engine failed and he struck a pillbox and burst into flames. He is buried in Calcutta (Bhowanipore) Cemetery, June 1942

Private James Kempley of the 1/5th Battalion, Royal Welch Regiment died on active service in France on 25th June 1944 aged 24. He is buried at St Manvieu War Cemetery, Cheux, Normandy, June 1944

## Local Awards for Gallantry in Middle East

The M.C. has been awarded to Lieut. A. C. Worrall (infantry), of Avon Dassett, October 1943



Flight-Lieutenant Pyers Arthur Worrall

## AVON DASSETT WEDDING

The Marriage was solemnized at Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Avon Dassett of Miss Rose Mary Canavan (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Canavan, of Knightcote) and Mr. Cyril Herbert Harris (son of Mr. Henry Harris, of Northend). The Rev. F. R. Leonard officiated. The bride, who was given away by her father, was charmingly attired in a blue taffeta dress, with veil of old Maltese lace and wreath of orange blossom. She wore a gold locket, the gift of the bridegroom and carried a bouquet of white chrysanthemums. The two bridesmaids Misses Eileen and Kathleen Canavan (sisters of the bride)—wore pink ankle length dresses trimmed with white, and white shoes; they carried bouquets of pink chrysanthemums and fern. Lance-Corpl. J. Canavan (brother of the bride) was best man. A reception was held at the home of the bride's parents, October 1940

## "Very Regrettable."

### Defendant who ordered police out of his house

"Very regrettable" was the Kington magistrates' comment case which came before them Wednesday. It was that in which Reginald T. Dibben of The Dene, Warmington, was summoned for allowing two dangerous dogs to be at large and not kept under proper control at Avon Dassett the 4th July. Sidney Golder, groom, of Farnborough, said he was riding a hunter when he saw two dogs running sheep about in a field. One was a spotted dog; the other he could not see clearly in the haze. He went to the farmer and told him what he saw. Arthur Edward Walker said that when he shepherded the lambs at 11am, they were quite all right. At 11.30am, he received the information, and he saw a black and white Dalmatian and a long shaggy haired terrier there. He recognised the dogs as Mr. Dibben's, as he had seen them with him several times. He went to Mr. Dibben's residence, but was told that gentleman was lying down and could not be disturbed. He asked see the dogs; they were not there. Six the sheep were bitten and were treated with green oils. Next morning went down into the field for milking and met the dogs going along the gated road for Warmington. He saw blood on one of the Dalmatians at the

back of the ear. The damage was estimated at 30s. for the six sheep. They had got quite all right since - Mr. Rupert Cecil Pick, Rectory Farm, Warmington, said he had 55 sheep in lamb. When he visited the sheep he found wool lying about the field. They were ewes in lamb. He did not see any dog. P.S. Jenkins said in consequence of complaint he went to Warmington and saw defendant; the latter told him he would have the Dalmatian destroyed. He then had the second complaint from Mr. Pick, so he went to Mr. Dibben's with Mr. Pick and Mr. Walker and told him he had received a second complaint. He replied: "I love my dogs, and shall not have them destroyed. I should be glad if you would get out of my house." The Sergeant asked if they could see the dogs. Defendant replied "No." They went into the stable and saw one Dalmatian dog with blood at the back of its neck. Col Pepsy remarked that the two dogs were not actually seen in the second field, but it was assumed they were the same two because they were out all that night. Defendant wrote the Court apologising for non-attendance

at Court owing to an attack of lumbago. He wrote that the dog had been "put down" by the vet. He had taken the dogs out to exercise with him many times and had never seen them look at sheep - Defendant's groom, William Richards Elliff, said he saw the dogs return home. He agreed they looked tired, but said it was not usual for them to be at night. He, too, had ridden exercises with the dogs and they would not look at sheep. He said Mr. Dibben had one Dalmatian dog destroyed at the vet's in Leamington. The Bench retired to consider the case. On resuming into Court the Chairman said: "The Court find the case proved, and order the two dogs to be destroyed, the police to satisfy themselves that the two dogs question are the dogs that are destroyed. They understand one has already been destroyed. Defendant will pay £1 witnesses' expenses, and £1 2s. 6d. Court fees. And the Court consider the defendant behaviour in ordering the police out of his house is very regrettable."

**Licences Transferred.** The licence of the Red Lion Avon Dassett was transferred from Mr. E. G. Holden to Mr. Albert Henry Golder, April 1940

## DEATH OF BARON PROFUMO

Baron Profumo, K.C., died yesterday at his home, Avon Carrow, Avon Dassett, Warwickshire, aged 61.

The eldest son of the late Joseph Alexander Profumo, he succeeded to the title of fourth baron of the kingdom of Italy in 1919. He was educated at the City of London School and abroad. Called to the Bar in the Inner Temple in 1901, he became a member of the South-Eastern Circuit, and joined the Middle Temple in 1907. He contested the High Peak Division Derbyshire in the Unionist interest in 1906, and again at a by-election in 1909.

Baron Profumo held the honorary degree of Master of Laws of Birmingham University, and when that faculty was founded he made a generous gift for the purchase of books. He was an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music and a Commendatore of the Crown of Italy. He was a member of the Honourable Artillery Company from 1897 till 1901, and was attached to Headquarters Staff, London District, from 1917 till 1919. He was a captain in the United Arts Rifles (1st Batt. County of London VR.). He married, in 1906, Martha, the youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Aikman Kennedy Walker, of Edinburgh and New York, and there are two sons and two daughters.

His heir is Mr. John Dennis Profumo, the new M.P. for Kettering, who won the seat at the recent by-election, and became at the age of 25 the youngest member of the House of Commons, March 1940



## The Late Baron Profumo Funeral Service At Avon Dassett

The funeral of Baron Profumo, of Avon Dassett, whose remains were cremated, took place on Saturday. The Rev. John Price (cousin) officiated at the service at Golders Green, and later the remains were deposited in the family vault at Horsham. The chief mourners were: Baroness Profumo, Mr. John Profumo, Mr. Philip Profumo (sons), Miss Profumo, Miss Maria Profumo (daughters), Mrs. Robert Rost (the Baron's sister), Mrs. Seville (the Baroness's sister) and Mrs. Price.

A memorial service was held at Avon Dassett Parish Church, where the Baron was churchwarden. Canon Feist (rector) officiated, and the Archdeacon of Warwick (the Ven. A. Ward) who represented the Bishop of Coventry, gave the address. The congregation included Lord Willoughby de Broke, Dr. Stallybrass (Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford), Mr. E. T. Leeds (Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, representing the Fellows of Brasenose, Major E. Phillips, Miss C. Tipping and Miss A. Sheffield (Midland Counties Home for Incurables, Leamington), Capt. P. H. Wykeham and Mr. P. G. Baggelev (for Capt. David Margesson and Rugby Conservative Assoc., Lt.-Colonel Sir Clarke Holbrook (Midland Union Conservative Association), Mr. J. Orme Tiley (for the Dowager Lady Willoughby de Broke).

Prof C. Smalley-Baker (University of Birmingham), Colonel Norris, Captain Keyser, Brig-General Allason, Mr. Kenneth Chance, Mrs. Holbech, Miss Nancy Holbech, Captain Figgis, the Rev. C. E. Webb, Mrs. Douglas Fraser, Captain and Mrs. Ronald Fox, Mrs. Corbally, Colonel and Lady Victoria de Trafford, Mr. and Mrs. Sumner, Dr. and Mrs. Banham, Major Fell, Mr. Walter Buckmaster, Dr. Gardiner-Hill, and Mrs. Feist. At a meeting of the Committee of Management of the Warneford Hospital, on Wednesday, a resolution of condolence with the relatives of the late Baron Profumo was passed. "He was always a generous benefactor to this Hospital and only recently gave us £500", observed the chairman (Mr. H. O. Lakin).

**GAYDON, Doctor-Motorist Killed.** An inquest, conducted by Mr. E. F. Hadow (Coroner), was held at Gaydon Inn on Tuesday on Dr. Francis Bernard Chavasse, M.C., brother of Dr. C. M. Chavasse, the Bishop of Rochester. Dr. Chavasse, who was 51 years of age, was killed on Saturday when the car in which he was travelling overturned after leaving the road and striking the grass verge, having failed to negotiate a left-hand bend. The accident happened at 9.35 p.m. on

the day in question at the Warwick-Banbury main road at Avon Dassett. Death was instantaneous, resulting from a fractured skull. Dr. Chavasse was also giving lift to an airman; the latter was propelled through the sunshine roof and unhurt. Dr. Wells, of Kington, arrived at the scene of the accident, but could only pronounce life extinct. Evidence of identification was given by the Rev. G. Foster-Carter, of Oxford also by the airman, Harold Norman Cheil, and Dr. Wells, July 1941

## HANDBAG THEFT

Mrs. Amy Hudson, of Church Street, Somerton, appeared before the magistrates charged with stealing a lady's handbag and silk tie, valued together at £2 0s. 8d., the property of Mrs. Frances Gertrude Golder, of the Red Lion Inn, Avon Dassett, on November 6th. Mrs. Frances Gertrude Golder, of the Red Lion, Avon Dassett, said that on November 6th she went to Woolworth's snack bar, Banbury. She had her bag with her and noticed the defendant near her. Later witness realised her bag was missing, and she reported it. On November 11th she received letter from defendant enclosing an identity card, clothing coupons and a car insurance, which were her own property. Det.-Sgt. Castle, of Bicester, said that on November 17th he interviewed the defendant at her home. She admitted having written the letter to Mrs. Golder and said she had found the identity card and the other articles in train on November 6th. "I told her that the articles were in a handbag stolen from Woolworth's Stores, Banbury," said witness, "and that I had reason to believe she knew something about it. "Defendant then said "I will tell you the truth. I had the handbag. On November 6th I went to Banbury and visited Woolworth's cafe. While there I saw a lady's handbag the floor. There were

some soldiers standing round. As no one apparently claimed the handbag I picked it up. I did not know what to do and whether to report the matter. "When I got home I found the papers in the bag and realising they would be of some importance to the owner I sent them to Mrs. Golder, saying I had found them in a train." Witness added that the defendant had previously borne a good character. Defendant told the magistrates: "I cannot understand why I took the handbag." A fine of £1 was imposed, with 14s. costs, December 1941

## AVON DASSETT AND FARNBOROUGH.

The House-to-House Collection for the Christmas Appeal for the Hornton Hospital reached the sum of £6 8s. 9d. It was organised by Miss Holbech. The Children have had delightful treats, consisting of presents, excellent teas and entertainments, provided by Mrs. Holbech, Mrs. Figgis and Mrs. Hoskins, and (in Avon Dassett) by the Baroness Profumo and Mrs. Worrall, who were responsible for all the arrangements. At both entertainments there was a splendid cinema show, which, needless to say the children enjoyed immensely, and the clever conjurer drew forth shrieks of laughter. In these dark days of war it was pleasant to see the comradeship which existed between the children of the town and country, and the happy feeling in Avon Dassett between the two churches there.

### THE CLUB RUNS

An afternoon run was held on Sunday last and the route was via Wardington, Chipping Warden, Byfield, Priors Marston, Priors-Hardwicke, Wormleighton and Fenny Compton, where tea was taken. The return was made via Avon Dassett, and Farnborough. On Sunday next, February 23rd, there will be a day run commencing at 9.30 a.m., and an afternoon run at 2 p.m., which will finish at Bledington for tea. - H.J.T. February 1941

### Motor-car light offences

Mary Agnes Josephine Herbert (35), post office assistant, the Post Office, Avon Dassett, Warwickshire fined 15s. May 1941

## Death Of Kington J.P. Kington's Loss

We regret to report the death of Mr. Francis George Sumner, which occurred his residence, Orchard Lodge, Avon Dassett, last Sunday, after an illness of some weeks' standing. Born in 1866, he was the eldest son of the late Francis John Sumner, of Park Hall, Derbyshire, and Eathorpe Park, Warwickshire. He was educated at Oscott College. He was married in 1897 to Beatrice Frances, daughter of the late W. T. Barrett, of Silverspring House, Cork, and in 1916 became a widower. In 1920 he married Norma May, daughter of the late T. W. Hanshew, of New York, and Anerley, Surrey. He was a Justice of the Peace for Derbyshire, and (since 1916) for Warwickshire. He built the beautiful residence known as Dene House, Kington with its lovely garden, and resided there many years, during which time he caused a barn with Tudor roof to be turned into the beautiful Roman Catholic Church at Kington, the delightful interior being a tribute to his sense of beauty. By his first marriage he had two sons and a daughter, and there is a tablet in Kington R.C. Church to the memory of one of these sons who met his death when bathing. A few years ago, Mr. Sumner went to reside at Orchard Lodge, Avon Dassett, where he built another beautiful residence. He was a charming personality, beloved by all who knew him. Both in Kington and Avon Dassett, Mr. and Mrs. Sumner took a great interest in helping all good work. Mr. Sumner was ever ready to lend his aid for a variety of objects at the request of the parishioners, and was full of hospitality. When it was known that he was ill much sympathy was expressed in the district. He leaves a widow; also a son and daughter by his first marriage. The interment was at Avon Dassett R.C. Church yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, February 1941

### AVON DASSETT Christmas Party.

A party organised by the Baroness Profumo, Lady Victoria de Trafford, Mrs. F. G. Sumner, Mrs. Worrall and Mrs. Corbally, was given during Christmas week in St. Joseph's Hall, for the young people. There was a Christmas tree laden with presents. Miss Worrall rendered valuable assistance, and it was most enjoyable function, December 1940

## KINETON PETTY SESSIONS

Wednesday: Before Mr. J. Fielden (chairman), Mr. F. G. Sumner, Mrs. Geare, the Hon. Mrs. Hanbury, Admiral Sir Walter Cowan, M.V.O. Mr. Ernest Parke, Mr. H. Green, and Colonel Walter Pepsy. DSO OBE  
Lighting Cases:  
Fined 10s. - Frances Golder, Avon Cottage, Avon Dassett, was also summoned for allowing light to show from a dwelling-house at Avon Cottage, Avon Dassett on November 17 at 7.15 a.m. Sub-Divisional Leader Lieut.-Col. J. H. Starkey said he saw a large unshielded light. He went up and saw a woman working in the kitchen. Defendant was fined 5s. January 1940