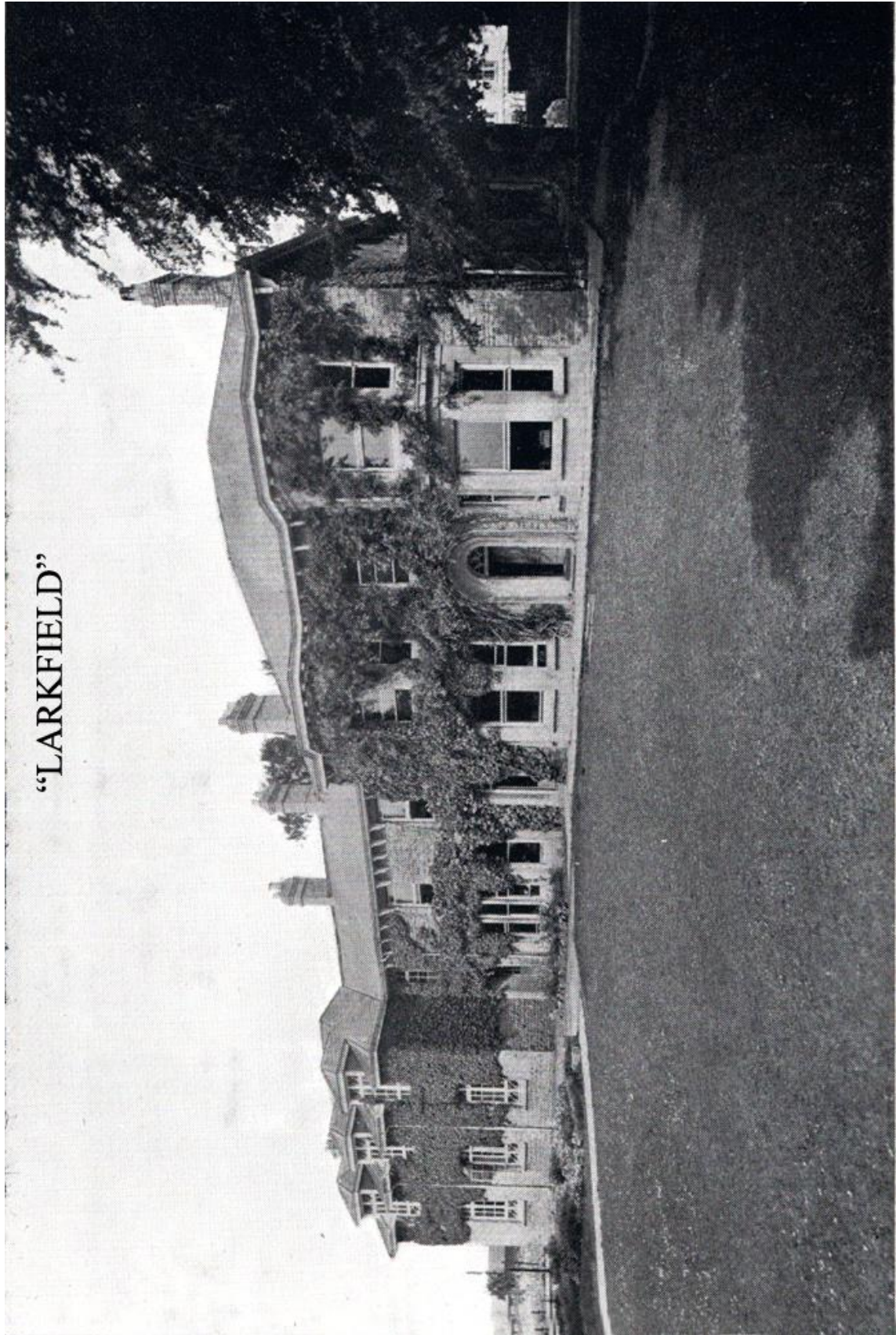


“Larkfield  
Times”



1941-42

No. 8



"LARKFIELD"

LARKFIELD TIMES.

No. 8.

JULY, 1942.

Vol. 1

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## EDITORIAL

Co.-Editors: J C. BAKER and E. J. STAFFORD. Sub-Editor : J. NORTHCOTT.  
Magazine Committee : J. REESE, P. JONES, D. LEWIS, D. WATSON.

Dear Readers,

We have much pleasure in presenting you in spite of these adverse times with the eighth number of the Larkfield Times. Articles have been contributed by every member of the School and we regret that paper restrictions prevent us from printing more. Once again we are too early to include the results of the School Sports and these will be published next year.

We continue to hear favourable news from Birmingham, where our Headmaster, Major J. H. E. Webb, is on active service, also from Scotland, where Mr. Ball is also on national service.

We were sorry to say good-bye last Easter to Mrs. Coles, who had taught us during Miss Smith's absence. We welcome our new master, Mr. Mellish.

Larkfield has now a small army of Old Pupils serving in H.M. Forces, and we are very proud of them. Not only these, but many more also are now serving their King and Country in factories, in hospitals, in schools, on farms, and in many other spheres of activity. We hope our published list of names of those actively serving is complete, and would be glad to receive news of any who have been omitted. We include two interesting articles from Old Pupils, and the Old Students Notes compiled by the efficient Joint Secretaries.

West Ham pupils are still with us, and the friendly co-operation between the two schools continues. The problem of accommodation has been considerably lessened by the addition of two new classrooms. Also Larkfield now has a dining-hall and staff, and pupils are able to partake of hot mid-day lunches.

Two years ago Mr. Morgan introduced into the School a National Savings Group. Larkfield has responded so well to his constant appeals that now the staff and almost every pupil are weekly supporters of this fine cause. When Chepstow had her Warship Week, Larkfield School, under Mr. Morgan's keen supervision, together with the School's Governors, raised about £4,500, a record for the County's Secondary Schools. It is also worthy of mention that we raised £58 on behalf of the Sailors' National Flag Day.

In closing, we wish to thank the Committee and all who have helped in any way in the production of this Magazine.

**J. C. BAKER, E. J. STAFFORD Co-Editors.**

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## LEADERSHIP.

Some short time ago, I read a poem by Edgar Guest. It seemed to me to be so full of truth and so well expressed, that I would like all pupils of Larkfield to read it.

" Would you be great?  
The great were once as you  
The men you magnify to-day  
Once groped and stumbled on life's way;  
Then fortune crowned with her caress  
The self-made gifts that you possess.  
The great were once as you,  
Dreaming the self-same dreams you hold,  
Fearing, yet longing to be bold;  
Doubting that they themselves possessed  
The strength and skill for every test.

Then one fine day, the first bold venture made  
(Scorning a cry for aid),  
They dared to stand and fight alone;  
Took up the gauntlet life had thrown,  
Moved full-front to the fray,  
Mastered their fear of self; and then—  
Found out the world's great men  
Are, after all, but men.  
Oh, man ! Go forth to-day and DO !  
You, too, to fame may rise,  
You may be strong and wise;  
Stand up to life and play the man !  
You can, if you but think you can.  
THE GREAT WERE ONCE AS YOU."

Whether in War or Peace, every country and every community relies upon its leaders.

The quality of leadership is required in so very many fields, not only the battlefield. To the realms of business, art, music, etc., can be added hundreds of others all offering opportunities for leadership.

At present our country requires, and fortunately possesses, leaders of outstanding ability, but the world's greatest need is leaders of the future. These future leaders are still at school; some may now be at Larkfield.

Nearly every ambitious person covets leadership but few reach the goal, some fail because they do not definitely make up their minds in which particular field they are going to operate, others because they are not prepared to serve apprenticeship. The future leader must very carefully, but definitely, choose his or her sphere of activity, and having chosen, be prepared to work hard for months and years before final success is achieved. Always remember that few men or women become famous overnight. First of all will come small triumphs, bringing with it confidence, and as confidence grows so will success.

Dreaming is not sufficient, action is necessary. This power and the Will to DO something must be operative.

Start now, if you wish to become a leader of the future, keep your goal always in front of you, and once started DON'T GIVE UP.

**MAJOR J. H. E. WEBB.**

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**HEADMASTER'S NOTES.**

Major J. H. E. Webb, M.B.E., has asked me to supply the Headmaster's Notes for this session's Magazine. The School will be pleased to learn that he is quite well, although his time is very fully occupied with special matters essential to the war effort. We send Major and Mrs. Webb our heartiest greetings, and wish them both a speedy return to the normal life of the School.

Omnibus Quisque; This is the motto which Major Webb has chosen for the School. Its interpretation is a personal matter. The forms of service are as varied as the human beings performing them. Each one brings to it his own personal and individual contribution. Whatever form it may take, the training at 'School and the subtle influence of the School tone will leave its impress upon it.

Our Magazine recalls the changing mood in the outlook of the School which the passage of another year of world war has brought about. In addition to its more normal work the School has succeeded in identifying itself with the life of the district in its social and wartime activities. The good

works to this end have been creditably maintained. In addition to the splendid investment in National Savings and the maintenance of comforts towards ex-pupils serving with the Forces, the collecting of medicinal herbs, under the guidance of Miss G. E. S. John, promises to be as interesting as it is valuable.

The school cannot escape from the reality of the war. It is idle and unprofitable to ignore the facts, however disturbing they may be to our complacency. It is all to the good that we should see essential facts of the world situation as they really are. It is only by starting from this premise that we can hope to build up a life which is going to be really helpful. This is not to say that the obvious is always the real substance. We are much more than we appear to be. The sources of human activity are very deeply seated. We owe much to, and we are also inhibited by, past human experience. In the new world we must move more with the march of events if our efforts are going to be healthy and creative. To shirk responsibility is to invite calamity. For everyone then, there is a really big job of work to be done. It is not far to seek if we really wish to find it.

Let us then be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate,  
'Still perceiving, still achieving,  
Learn to labour and to wait."

Our thoughts go out at this time to those ex-pupils who are serving with the Forces wherever they may be. We wish them a safe and secure return, so that we may join with them in a sobered relaxation from the sustained high tension of the war.

We hope to see Mr. and Mrs. Ball back with us again shortly. We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Mellish to our School circle. We believe that they will soon be able to enjoy the life at Chepstow and at Larkfield.

**W. ROBINSON.**

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### **HOME THOUGHTS FROM ABROAD.**

During the first eighteen months of the war, a certain individual was one of the staff of a most noble seat of learning. He was not the happiest of men, there being one thing which tended to mar his existence. This man was unfortunate in his profession, since it was his lot in life to explain the mysteries and intricacies of mathematics to young antagonists who had little desire to benefit by his labours. However, he had plodded gallantly on, but as each week had come to a close he had heaved a sigh of relief and uttered an earnest prayer that the next week might be more profitable than the last. Sometimes he wished that by some mysterious power he might be carried away to a place where School Certificate Mathematics was unknown.

Then, quite suddenly, an opportunity presented itself. The Senior Service was in need of men with certain qualifications, and he was appointed to a post in a part of the country little known to him. He had heard and read a great deal about Scotland and its beauties, and, although he was loth to leave his old friends and associations, it was with a feeling of elation that he travelled North to take up his new position.

For the first few months he enjoyed himself immensely. He travelled about Scotland a great deal, seeing many of the well-known places of interest. From the lowlands in the South and the rather monotonous east coast country, he travelled through the magnificent splendour of the Northern highlands to the Orkneys where he basked in the midnight sun. Then to the rugged West coast, which boasts some of the most beautiful scenery in the world, to the banks of Loch Lomond and Loch Long and the sharp mountain peaks which surround them. And finally, back to the firth of Forth, which is spanned by one of the engineering marvels of the age the Forth Bridge. In all places he found the

Scottish people kind and friendly, and still gay in spite of the war. Their cities were filled to overflowing with Service-men and evacuees, and there was plenty of amusement and entertainment for.

Then, gradually, it began to dawn upon him that although his life was gay and enjoyable there was something that he missed. Among his former colleagues, and also the pupils, there had existed a spirit of comradeship which had become a sort of tradition of the School. It was this spirit that he found lacking in his new life. His job had become mechanical and monotonous, much more so than he had imagined his teaching duties to be. Furthermore, he realised that he had developed a warm affection for his former pupils and that in spite of their lack of appreciation of his mathematics, they possessed qualities which were much more important.

Now, after fifteen months of " exile," his one desire is to return to his former post and resume his duties where he left off. He realises., however, that this cannot be until the war has ended in an Allied Victory and that until that day it is his duty, as it is the duty of thousands of others, to carry on with the task that he has been given to do. During his absence the School has no doubt undergone many changes. Some of the pupils that he knew have left to take up various appointments, while other younger ones have come to take their places. But fundamentally the School must be the same, the spirit must be the same and it will remain so for many years to come.

And so an exile " sends greetings to the staff and pupils of "Larkfield". To those pupils who will be leaving the School in July, he sends his best wishes for their future. Some of those who remain he hopes to meet again, but in any case, he is confident that they will uphold the traditions of the School, as they have been upheld in the past. All will agree that " Larkfield " is a School of which they can be proud.

**G. C. BALL, Burntisland, Fife.**

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**POEM, EISTEDDFOD, 1942.  
V FOR VICTORY.**

Violets, violets, true English violets,  
Muffled in mossy warmth 'neath English hedges !  
Violets are emblems of true English spirit,  
Violets live on in the sunshine or storm.  
Whatever the weather, the honeyed blue violets,  
White also, all fragrant, appear in the Spring,  
For violets are signs of the spirit of England,  
Each year they arrive, England's praises to ring,  
To cheer her, encourage her. Toil may be weary,  
Obstacles numerous, labour and pain,  
Yet come violets, as if to say, " On with the battle !  
What s this compared with your ultimate gain?"

Valour, valour, true English valour !  
Determined to conquer or perish in battle,  
Englishmen fighting for life and for liberty,  
For all that is dear to them, cities and farms !  
Valour," the watchword which urges them onward !  
For Valour " inscribed on the medals some won !  
Yet all of them valiant, what use are medals,  
Will medals help us to vanquish the Hun ?  
Or Yellow Japan? or Fascist-ruled Italy?

The Dutch, Chinese, Russians, Americans true,  
Will help this great Empire to shatter her enemies,  
For Valour s " the watchword in these countries, too.

Voices, voices, true English voices !  
Singing at eventide in English churches,  
Praying for courage, for strength and for victory,  
Victory over the heathenish foe.  
Voices which kindle a hope and a promise,  
A hope, and a promise of Peace and not War,  
England of courage ! she knows she will conquer,  
And win that true peace which no evil will mar.  
These voices, symbolic of England's great spirit,  
Are raised in an anthem all thankful with praise,  
But oh, the triumphant peal forth of those voices  
When victory brings England happier days !

Victory, victory, glorious victory !  
England is toiling for thee and thy gladness !  
Her people are falling in battle to gain thee,  
Are speeding o'er sea, and through heaven aloft,  
Thy symbol is written by Englishmen's fingers  
In city, in country, all over the land,  
The V to rekindle an ever-new energy,  
In a worker's tired footstep or toil-weary land.  
Let V be imagined, a target to aim at,  
In each English heart 'till unhappiness flies,  
Flies away, far away, leaving nought but a memory,  
And victory, victory, is England's prize.

**JOYCE C. BAKER, Form VIA.**

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### **MY FIRST YEAR IN LABRADOR.**

Life in an Eskimo village is governed by fishing and hunting prospects, the prices of fish and fur and by the weather conditions. Having exhausted these topics conversation is at an end unless old friends are together. Should the company be female, gossip is inevitable, and if male, one impossible story follows another concerning hunting feats or mosquitoes according to season.

The business of living leaves no time for leisure, and each year the same activities follow each other in a regular cycle, yet life is far from monotonous. Speculation regarding the date of the freeze-up runs high as December approaches. Kamatiks (sledges) are repaired, and each man anxiously surveys his dog team, wondering if his new master dog will be as good as the last. If the seal hunt has been good the winter holds few terrors for the Eskimo, especially if his supplies of dried fish, meat and frozen berries are adequate. The trapping of foxes provides money for flour, molasses and such luxuries as the store contains when credit for is dwindling. Supplies of fresh meat are plentiful varying from whale steak and walrus liver to the beautiful white yellow ptarmigan.

The thermometer was an object of fascination for me last winter. With each fall of the mercury my excitement increased, until on the 10th of December, after a week of intense cold, I awoke to find



the sea frozen. One distant figure squatting at the edge of the newly-formed ice was the only seal hunter I saw, for open water disappeared overnight.

This novel world seemed unreal. The strange sensation of walking over sea ice I must leave to your imagination. By night the Aurora filled the sky with wierd activity and colour, while whirling, blinding blizzards were followed by still sparkling days of sunshine, when every tree glittered with a myriad ice crystals. Komatiks arrived and departed, each with some fresh item of news.

As the days grew longer flocks of snowbirds crept into the community. Supplies were running short and the break-up was still a long way off. Open water came, but as the on-shore wind continued the danger of pack-ice from the Greenland coast increased daily. Main harbour, forty miles from the open ocean, filled with great pans of blue-green ice grotesquely carved by constant wave action. With navigation impossible and supplies at a minimum, the tension increased, but the day came when the last ice pan melted on the shore and news of supplies arrived.

For nearly three months we have been coping with the accumulation of mail, the ordering of another year's supplies and an endless stream of visitors, not to mention plagues of mosquitoes and sand flies. Adequately protected with yards of fine net and Stockholm tar, we tramped the endless succession of hills fishing in the trout streams or berry-picking on the hillsides. We jigged for cod in the harbour or hunted water birds, but those days are over. The occasional enquiry for war news has given place to speculation regarding the price of fish, and " sign of foxes " is already creeping into the conversation.

**D. M. PEACOCK.**

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**LIFE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA UNDER THE GERMAN HEEL.**

Czechoslovakia used to be one of the most peaceful countries in Europe before Hitler invaded. Then it all changed. The most lively places in town changed into the most miserable. In front of the doors of cafes and other public places used to be notices saying, " None but Germans are welcomed." If you went into some of these places you would find, sitting around the tables, jack-booted Gestapo men, disturbing everybody else with their loud laughing, shouting and singing. I have seen Czech patriots, when passing, tear down such notices and smash the windows of pro-Nazi shops.

Schools have also changed a lot. In the good old days, before school there used to be prayers, but now the teachers are changed into Germans, who more than likely don't know any more than they learned in the elementary school. Before and after school hours the children have to sing the German National Anthem, and between lessons to greet the teachers coming in and going out they have to give the Nazi salute and shout, " Heil Hitler, long live Germany." In history the children only learn the history of the Reich, in P.T. they only learn how to fight and how to kill, and in their spare time they have to join the Hitler youth to learn sarcasm and destruction. This is an idea of what children under the heel of the Nazis learn.

The Gestapo come to the houses of poor old Czechs, call out inhabitants at about two o'clock in the morning and send them down the road to scrub, off thick paint which they had put down the preceding evening. If the Gestapo get the slightest objection from anybody, it would be enough for his or her whole family to be sent to a concentration camp, where they would be tortured.

I had an uncle who was sent to a concentration camp in the winter. He and some of his colleagues were put to work shovelling snow, barefooted, and only with a vest and a pair of shorts. The Germans thought that was the only way of getting them to work quickly, because if they did not they would soon freeze. My uncle was released after a few months on the condition that he would leave Germany within a week's time for Shanghai. He died after the first week in Shanghai with his hands and feet nearly falling off, having been so frost-bitten.

I have got a good many bones to pick with Hitler when we get him, together with many more of my countrymen.

**P. GRUNFELD, HA.**

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### **SELLING ANCHORS.**

One Friday night, not so very long ago, I set out in a light drizzle to collect for the British Sailors' Society. Despite Miss Smith's (Senior) command that we were to wear school uniform, I was wearing a waterproof pixie hood, for the simple reason that a beret does not keep off much of the rain. My collecting tray of anchors under my arm, and my collecting box suspended from one finger, I plodded down the muddy lanes of Chepstow. My feet were wet, but my heart was, to quote from Miss Smith's speech on the following Tuesday morning, "inspired with the thought that I was doing a service for others," and after all, you Latin scholars, what is the school motto but "Omnibus Quisque."

My first victim was a small cottage, well back among the green trees and hedges. I walked up the squelchy cinder path and knocked imperiously on the knotted wooden door. It was opened by a mite of a child with jam on her race, who was swinging a doll by its one and only leg. She must have thought I was one of those new postwomen and that the tray was a parcel, because her face fell a mile when I said very brightly, "Will you buy a flag, please?"

She disappeared into the gloom and returned soon with a small threepenny bit. I felt a delicious feeling go through me as I heard that tiny coin drop, spin and then settle on the bottom of the box. And that was how my collecting box was christened.

Just as I was shutting the gate I espied a farmer coming along the lane. He was one of those people that find infinite joy in seeing the rain pour down in torrents, and he was therefore smiling a malicious smile. I was rather glad then that it was raining, because if it hadn't been he wouldn't have been in such a happy frame of mind, and would not therefore have dropped a shilling into my box. Now one silver coin makes a lovely rattle, but two make music for the gods.

With my feet wetter and my heart lighter, I came upon one of those newly painted green and yellow villas which look so absurdly out of place in the middle of the country. Like me, the geraniums in neat red rows on either side of a neater concrete path refused to be daunted by the rain and lifted their heads even higher, filling the air with a scent like Lewisite (or is it Lewisite that smells like geraniums). I

rang the bell and the door was opened immediately by a very bright individual in navy slacks, a crimson sweater, and around her head was a bright orange scarf which looked suspiciously like a duster. Before I could open my mouth, or should I say close it, for I always gape like a fish when astonished, the bright young thing said, "No. We don't want any vacuum cleaners, mangles or shoe laces!" and banged the door shut. But before I could turn round again the door reopened and the same girl but a different voice said, "Er', what did you want?"

I explained, and she added seven pennyworth of copper to my box and relieved me of three anchors.

Out on the road again I met a dear old soul who was wearing a black hat that looked as if it had been retarred every Spring since the Boer War. She was determined not to put her four pence halfpenny in the box until I had promised faithfully that it would go to her sister's husband's brother's nephew out in Lybia. Then she pinned the little blue anchor amongst the bedraggled fur on the collar of her long black coat and hobbled off.

On the whole everybody after that was willing to open their purses for the sailors that brave the perils of the deep for our food, except, of course, for those who said "No" and who meant "No," or those who turned up their collars, looked the other way and hurried past or those who said they had no change, whether this were true or not. To these enemies of charity I say beware, for they don't deserve their week's sugar ration.

Yet it was a heavy box and an empty tray (my mother bought all the anchors left over." The pins will come in useful," she said) that I handed over on Monday morning.

**PEGGY DILWORTH, VA.**

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**SUPPOSITIONAL SCORING.**

At cricket I am not, I own, a Sutcliffe or a Hobbs.  
My scores are few and far between and all too often " blobs."  
My bowling isn't on a par with Larwood or with Tate,  
It has no sting, it lacks a " length," it's seldom even straight.  
I drink a cup of bitterness and drain it to the dregs  
Each time I try to stop a ball that trickles thro' my legs,  
And if, as now and then occurs, I get a simple catch,  
I'm almost sure to drop it and, perchance, to lose the match.

And yet each Saturday I play upon the village green,  
With spirit still undaunted and in flannels nice and clean,  
And as each season starts afresh, my optimism clings  
In touching faith to happy hopes of brighter, better things;  
And since I'm always put in last, I am at times " not out,"  
A circumstance which conjures up a pleasant state of doubt,  
For if the other man had stayed, 'tis lawful to suppose  
I might have been top scorer with a century. Who knows ?

**G. L. NORKETT, Form IIIsc.**

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**SCHOOL JOTTINGS.  
LECTURE BY J. BELSKI.**

During the Summer Term, the school was invited to a lecture given by Mr. Joseph Belski, who was accompanied by his wife.

Mr. Belski, who had been introduced to the School by Miss John, gave an interesting and enlightening account of life and industries in Czechoslovakia. Mrs. Belski added to the interest of the lecture by producing some very fine examples of lace, manufactured in Czechoslovakia, and many photographs of the Czech country and people.

Mr. Belski was able to give the school a very good picture of Czechoslovakia at the time of the entry of the Nazis. We wish to convey our thanks to both Mr. and Mrs. Belski for their splendid Lecture.

**JOAN REESE.**

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**SPEECH DAY.**

Larkfield Annual Speech Day and Prize Distribution for the year 1941-42 was held in the Public Hall, Chepstow, on December 2nd. The report for the year was read by Mr. W. Robinson, the Acting Headmaster, in the absence of Major J. H. E. Webb.

Mr. Robinson referred, among other things, to the excellent and formative address given by Dr. Baker, of West Ham Municipal Technical College, before distributing the prizes, and was thanked by Mr. D. Brynmor Morgan (Director of Education). Miss Olive Smith presided.

**PRIZE-WINNERS.**

C.W.B. Certificates:

P. W. Adams, P. J. Brace K F Cole P. G. Billing, J. L. G. Brace, L. Carter, B. J. Carrivick,

V R D Collier, M. Evans, T. G. Evans, J. G. Griffiths, B. Howard, K T Jarvis, D. J. Jones, P. E. Jones, D. E. R. Lang, B. N; Leach E. M. Leveson, G. E. Morgan, M. K. Marshall, M. Moore, A. J Morgan I E. M. Murphy, J. B. Northcott, D. A. Rollings, M. S. Spooner E. J. Stafford, E. A. Thomas, D. H. West, D. F. H. Wilding, M. W. Wolley.

Supplementary Certificates: L. P. Stafford, E. J. Vicarage.

Higher Certificate: E. J. Vicarage (Eng., His., Bio.).

Form Prizes:

Form VI : E. J. Vicarage; Form Va, P. W Adams, Form Vb, K. Jarvis; Form IVa, Barbara Whitcombe; Form IVb J Hutchings; Form IIIa, Bernice Whitcombe; Form IIIb, M. Hopkins; Form IIa, B. Henderson; Form Iib, M. Hutchings and R. Adams.

Special Prizes;

From VI E.J. Vicarage (English, Biology, Latin), L. P. Stafford (Mechanics).

Form V : E. A. Thomas (English), E. Leveson (French), P. Jones (History), D. West (Geography), G. Mangan (Biology), D. Wilding (Mathematics), L. Carter (Chemistry), J. Northcott (Woodwork), K. Marshall (Cookery), T. Evans (Art).

After the distribution of the prizes there followed a display of Danish exercises given by the senior girls, while the boys gave an excellent display of gymnastics, which won considerable applause. The Junior 'School Choir, conducted by Mr. A. Edwards and accompanied by Miss M. Gillatt, rendered songs.

## P. WATSON, VB.

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### SCHOOL EISTEDDFOD.

The Annual School Eisteddfod was held in the latter end of Spring Term, on Tuesday, March 31st. Unfortunately our Headmaster, Major Webb, was unable to attend.

A very high standard of attainment was achieved, especially in the new " Hobbies " Section, which aroused great interest in the School. The exhibition of entries in the Literary, Crafts, and Domestic Science Sections was this year held in the new diningroom.

#### RESULTS.

English Essays, Junior: 1, I. Gill (Wye); 2, R. Morgan (Usk); 3, P. Grunfield (Usk).

Senior: 1, J. Baker (Usk); 2, D. Watson (Severn); 3, M. Sims (Severn).

Poem (own composition). 1, J. Baker (Usk); 2, D. Saunders (Severn); 3, P. Dilworth (Severn).

History. Junior : 1, G. Norkett (Usk); 2, E. Harris (Wye); 3, C. Griffiths (Wye).

Senior : 1, J. Reese (Wye); 2, I. Herbert (Usk); 3, B. Whitcombe (Wye).

Geography. Junior : 1, E. King (Wye); 2, R. Morgan (Usk); 3, D. Groom (Severn).

Senior: 1, J. Northcott (Usk); 2, R. Brace (Wye); 3, T. O'Neill (Severn).

Biology. Junior: 1, M. Turner (Severn); 2, E. Harris (Wye); 3, B. Henderson (Wye).

Senior: 1, B. Whitcombe (Wye); 2, M. Lewis (Usk); 3, E. Stafford (S) and D. Williams (Wye).

English Recitation. Junior : 1, S. Lewis (Usk); 2, S. May (Wye); 3, D. Saunders (Severn) and M. Hutchings (Severn).

Senior 1, M Lewis (Usk); 2, M. Sims (Severn); 3, T. O'Neill (Severn).

French Recitation. , J. Baker (Usk); 2, P. Adams (Usk); 3, P. Jones (Severn).

Impromptu Speech (points equally divided between four).

J. Reese (Wye), O. Robinson (Wye), T. O'Neill (Severn), A. Heard (Usk).

Junior Solo. Boys: 1, G. Morgan (Severn); 2, I. Parry (Usk); 3 A. Knight (Usk).

Girls : 1, M. Tovey (Wye); 2, E. Reece (Usk); 3, J. Voss (Wye).

Senior Solo. Boys: 1, A. Shock (Severn); 2, R. Matter (Severn); 3. A. Heard (Usk) and E. Stafford (Severn).

Girls: 1 P Adams (Usk); 2, R. Vigers (Usk); 3, H. Hill (Usk).  
 Vocal Duet. P. Adams and R. Vigers (Usk); 2, C. Griffiths and G. Williams (Usk);  
 3, M. White and H. Hill (Usk).  
 Pianoforte Solo. Junior : I, E. Reece (Usk); 2, S. Lewis (Wye); 3, E. Leonard (Severn).  
 Middle School: I, B. Parsons (Severn); 2, G. Williams (Usk); 3, B. Whitcombe (Wye).  
 Senior: I, H. Wright (Severn); 2, M. Sims (Severn); 3, B. Pearson (Severn).  
 Art. Junior: 1, P. Jones (Severn); 2, Rees (Wye); 3, Brace (Severn).  
 Senior: 1, A. Morgan (Usk); 2, G. Holsgrove (Severn); 3, K. Tamplin (Severn)  
 and W. Phillips (Severn).  
 Woodwork Junior : I, P. Grunfeld (Usk); 2, T. J. Edwards (Usk); 3, J. Howells (Severn).  
 Senior: 1, J. Northcott (Usk); 2, M. Baker (Wye); 3, R. Rowlands (Usk).  
 Knitting Junior : 1, P. Boniface (Usk); 2, S. Stafford (Wye); 3, E. Stafford (Severn).  
 Senior : I, R. Vigers (Usk); 2, G. Parry (Usk); 3, P. Adams (Usk).  
 Darning (open): I, N. Leach (Usk); 2, J. Tennant (Severn); 3, J. Reese (Wye).  
 Cookery—Junior : 1, M. Stevens (Wye); 2, B. Stokes (Wye); 3, M. Trussler (Usk).  
 Senior: 1, H. Wright (Severn); 2, N. Chandler (Usk); 3, R. Vigers (Usk).  
 Open : I, E. Wood (Severn); 3, M. Lewis (Usk); 3, N. Leach (Usk).  
 Hobbies; Ships, Planes: 1, J. Northcott (Usk); 2, M. Baker (Wye); 3, Barton (Wye) and  
 G. Holsgrove (Severn).  
 Models: 1, D. Norkett (Wye); 2, G. Norkett (Usk); 3, R. Carrwick (Wye).  
 Art Needlework, M. Lewis (Usk); 2, M. Evans (Usk); J. Tennant (Severn).  
 Woolwork. D. Bolt (Wye); 2, A. Washbourne (Wye); 3, N. Leach (Usk).  
 Choirs.—1, Severn 2, Usk and Wye.  
 Plays: 1, Wye; 2, Severn; 3, Usk.  
 Final Points, Usk, 83½; 2, Wye, 69¼; 3, Severn, 60.  
 Officers.  
 President, Mr. W. Robinson, B.Sc. (acting Headmaster);  
 Conductor, Mr. B. Westcott, B.Sc.;  
 Adjudicators, Miss D. M. Smith, M.A., Miss M. Gillatt, B.A., Miss S. M. Davies, B.A.,  
 Miss G. E. S. John, B.Sc., Miss M. T. B. Thomas, B.A., Miss M. B. Mackenzie, B.Sc.,  
 Miss C. E. Smith, Miss L. A. Biggs, Mr. A. E. Edwards, B.A., Mr. L. B. Jakeman;  
 Recorder, Mr. F. C. Wilding, B.A.;  
 Secretaries, Miss M. T. B. Thomas, B.A., and Mr. L. Morgan, B.Sc.,

**D. H. LEWIS, VB.**

### **NATIONAL SAVINGS GROUP.**

This year the Savings Group has been even more successful than before, the results completely overshadowing those of the previous year.

The total saved up to the time of going to press is £9,020/0/6, while since the Magazine was last published we have raised the fine total of £5,660/0/6, a large amount of which was saved during the Warships Week, when £4,520/17/0 was raised, a magnificent effort, which more than doubled the total raised during War Weapons Week last year and was the highest of all the Secondary Schools in the County.

Most of the praise is due to Mr. Morgan once again, who is untiring in his efforts. The cooperation of the past and present pupils and the staff is as great as ever, and in a few weeks we hope that the £10,000 mark will have been passed.

**J NORTHCOTT, Visc.**

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### HOCKEY NOTES.

Captain : M. Spooner. Vice-Captain: J. Reese. Hon. Secretary : P. Jones.

This year has not been one of our most successful seasons. We were unfortunate in losing three members of the team, including our captain, M. Spooner, during the season.

The team has played well considering the number of changes which had to be carried out.

Team:

M. Spooner, J. Reese, P. Jones, P. Adams, I. Herbert, H. Vincent, B. Howard, N. Leach, B. Smith, P. Dilworth, G. Parry, I. Wilkins.

#### MATCHES.

Bassaleg (away)	Drew (3-3)
Lydney Old Grammarians (away)	Won (4-1)
Lydney (home)	Lost (6-1)
Lydney (away)	Lost (4-2)
Old Students	Lost (4-1)

Goals Were scored by: P. Jones (5), I. Herbert (2), P. Adams (2).

Colours: M. Spooner, J. Reese, P. Jones, P. Adams, I. Herbert.

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### RUGBY NOTES.

Captain : E. J. Stafford. Vice-Captain : P. Lewis. Secretary : E. J. Stafford.

This year the Rugby team has had a successful season as the match list below illustrates. The three-quarters played in fairly good unison, but the co-operation of the forwards could have been improved upon.

Team:- E. J. Stafford, P. H. Lewis, D. Williams, E. Lovell, R. Heard, D. Watson, M. Baker, A. Morgan, H. Townsend, D. Norkett, J. Griffiths, K. Tamplin, W. Phillips.

Newport Technical College (home)	Won
Newport St. Julian's M. School (home)	Won
Newport St. Julian's M. School (away)	Won
Lydney Grammar (away)	Lost
Lydney Grammar (home)	Lost
Chepstow A.T.C. (home)	Won
Newport High School (home)	Lost
Newport High School (away)	Lost
Old Students (home)	Lost

Matches played, 9; matches won, 4; matches lost, 5.

Colours : E. J. Stafford, D. Lewis, D. Williams.

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### TENNIS NOTES.

Captain: P. Adams. Vice-Captain: H. Wright.

We are unable to include the results of all our tennis matches this season as the Magazine has been printed early.

We have been most unfortunate this Term, having had to cancel two of our matches, one owing to transport difficulties, the other owing to bad weather and court conditions.

We have played only two matches this Term so far :-

Bassaleg (away)	Won
Lydney (away)	Lost

Team: P. Adams, I. Herbert, H. Wright, H. Vincent, P. Jones, J. Reese. M. White (reserve).

Colours : P. Adams, H. Wright.

**P. W. ADAMS (Capt.).**

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**BASEBALL NOTES.**

The Magazine is being printed too early this year for the results of all our matches to be included. The first match was cancelled and the second we lost to Lydney, 12-3½

The team is working well, and we intend to even the scores in the remainder of the season.

Team: T. Haines, M. Turner, J. Hobbs, E. Williams, N. Chandler, T. Alien, B. Baker, M. King, N. Parks.

**M. TURNER.**

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**CRICKET NOTES.**

Captain: D. H. Lewis. Vice-Captain: E. J. Stafford.

The team is of fairly high standard considering we have only two members of last year's cricket team. Owing to war-time difficulties we have only played three matches. Of these we won two and lost the other by a very narrow margin.

**RESULTS.**

Beachley (away)	Won
West Ham (home)	Won
Beachley (home)	Lost

Team: D. H. Lewis, E. J. Stafford, E. Lovell, D. Williams, H. Heard, A. Morgan, B. Jordan, K. Tamplin, A. James D. Norkett R Evans, J. Northcott.

Reserves: Hoskins, Rowlands.

Colours: D. Lewis, E. J. Stafford.

**D. H. LEWIS.**

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**SEVERN HOUSE NOTES.**

Girls' Captain: P. E. Jones. Boys' Captain: E. J. Stafford.

The Severn House has had rather an unsuccessful year, doing fairly well in matches but failing sadly in the Eisteddfod and in School Work.

The boys won both their Rugby matches by wide margins. The girls won both Netball matches, beat the Wye and drew with the Usk in Hockey. Cricket and tennis matches have not yet been played but we hope to do quite well.

We hope that the next School Year will be more successful for the Severn House.

**P. JONES, E. J. STAFFORD.**

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**USK HOUSE NOTES.**

Girls Captain: P. W. Adams. Boys' Captain: E. Lovell.

The Usk has done very well this year, and has high hopes of obtaining the Shield for the fourth time in succession.

The boys had bad luck in Rugby, but the girls made up for it by beating the Severn and drawing with the Wye in hockey. So far we have only played one tennis match, one baseball match, and one cricket match.

Last Term we again won the Eisteddfod, and kept up our supremacy. Up to now, we have lost only two Eisteddfodau. As there are several useful members of the House in the Middle School there is no reason why our success should not be repeated.

The school work of the Usk House has been of a very high standard this year. If this standard is kept up we will have a good start towards retaining the Shield next year.

**P. W. ADAMS, E. LOVELL.**

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### **WYE HOUSE NOTES.**

Boys' Captain : D. Williams. Girls' Captain: J. Reese.

This year has not been very successful for the Wye House. We were unfortunate in losing our supremacy in school work. In the Eisteddfod we managed to desert our customary position of third and reached -second place.

In games, both boys and girls have been unlucky. The girls lost both hockey matches and one netball match, while they drew with the Usk in the remaining match. The boys lost both Rugby matches.

The Sports have not yet been run off, so we are unable to give the final results for the Shield, but we hope to gain many more points in order to regain the Shield after an absence of five years.

**J. REESE, D. WILLIAMS,**

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### **LARKFIELD OLD STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.**

**REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31. ST MARCH, 1942.**

The following Officers were appointed for 1941-42 at the Annual General Meeting held on 9th April, 1941 :-

President: Rev. D. A. H. Birch, M.A., Ph.D.

Vice-Presidents: Miss D. M. Smith, Major J. H. E. Webb, M.B.E., M.Sc.

Chairman: W. Robinson, Esq., B.Sc.

Treasurer: B. Westcott, Esq., B.Sc.

Committee : Miss I. Flowers, Miss F. Stockham, Miss M. Rees, Miss D. Hutchings, Miss L. Rees, Miss K. Marshall, Mr. J. E. Price, Mr. J. Weekes, Mr. A. L. Hemingsley, Mr. E. A. Brown, Mr. A. Turner.

Secretaries: Miss K. Price and Mr. J. Dixon.

International events have again adversely affected the structure and social activities of the Association during the year under review. Those events which were undertaken were, partly of necessity and partly from an unexpressed desire to conform with the gravity of the situation, subject to a restraint which can only be dispersed by a decided Victory for Great Britain and her Allies.

It was considered unnecessary to cancel all functions, and accordingly a Summer Meeting was held on Wednesday, 23rd July, 1941. Tennis and cricket matches were played in the School Grounds during the afternoon and early evening. At the tea interval those present were able to take part in a very pleasant ceremony. The President of the Association, Dr. A. H. Birch, had made a special effort to attend, at no little inconvenience to himself, for the purpose of presenting an eight-day chiming clock to Mr. John E. Price, now President of the Chepstow and District Farmers' Union, as a token of the gratitude felt by all Members of the Association for the years of devoted and unselfish service given by Mr. Price during his tenancy of the joint secretaryship. Later on, those who were able to afford the time and could contrive to evade the vagaries of the local Transport Company, had the pleasure of continuing the Meeting in the Ballroom of the Beaufort Hotel.

Two further dances were organised during the winter with the object of providing the necessary funds for the despatch of a small Christmas gift to every Old Student serving in H.M. Forces, and the nett profits, together with other support, enabled a pair of socks, or gloves in the case of ladies, to be sent to all whose addresses had been unearthed. Those who were responsible for the unending knitting



were asked to accept virtue's own reward in the absence of any possible personal thanks from the beneficiaries.

Honours must be handed to the Old School for its Chepstow Warship Week effort. No less than £4,050/17/0 was collected under the supervision of Mr. L. Morgan, and past pupils have no reason to feel ashamed at the part contributed by them to this magnificent total.

The subject of honours brings to the fore the achievements of two of our young ladies. Miss D. G. Adams (1930-35) and Miss I. R. Baker (1934-39). Nurse Adams, after training at Bute Hospital and St. James's Hospital, London, passed the State Registered Nurse Examination, attaining the highest marks of all the candidates, a truly Herculean feat. Nurse Baker after three months' training at Cardiff Royal Infirmary, found herself leading lady of the training school entrants at a similar examination. Good luck to both.

L. P. Stafford has been awarded a silver medal for attaining the highest marks in Biology throughout the past year at Reading Veterinary College.

During the year the Association has enjoyed the full use of the School buildings, and thanks are publicly accorded to Mr. W. Robinson, the Acting Head, and his loyal and devoted staff, without whose support the Association could not exist. Perhaps Major Webb and our other Members now in uniform, and scattered over the face of the earth, will have returned safely to this district before the next report is submitted. We sincerely hope so.

**J. DIXON.**

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**MARRIAGES.**

- Town-Bold,                    On February 21st, at Caldicot Methodist Church,  
Sergeant Verdun Town, R.E., of Feltham, Middlesex to Beryl Bold (1931-36), of Caldicot.
- Fuller-Gardiner.            On January 19th, at St. Mary's Church, Portskewett,  
Charles Fuller, Sudbrook, to Lilian Gardiner (1931-34), of Portskewett.
- Rees-Bendall.                On December 27th, at Chepstow Baptist Church,  
Gomer Rees, Pontllanfraith, to Audrey Bendall (1934-32), of Chepstow.
- Stoddart-Williams         On December 20th, at Itton Church,  
Raymond Stoddart (1932-37) to Letitia Williams, Mynyddbach.
- Groves-Fisher                On July 5th, at St. Mary's R.C. Church, Chepstow,  
Monica Groves (1931-36) to Richard John Fisher.
- Oakley-Richardson.        On July 5th, at St. Mary's R.C. Church, Chepstow,  
D. Oakley to Margaret Mary Richardson (1924-28), of Chepstow.
- James-Bennett                On October 11th, 1941, at St. Mary's Church, Chepstow,  
??? James to Beatrice Joan Bennett (1932-36).
- Watkins-Robson.            On October 11th, at the Congregational Church, Chepstow,  
2nd Lieut. C. J. Watkins, B.A. (1924-29), of Chepstow to Joyce Robson, of Chepstow.
- Price-Heath                 On September 18th, at Trellech Grange Church  
John Edwin Price Cophill (1928-33) to Kathleen Heath, Trellech Grange.
- Weston-Griffiths.         On July 31st, at Bristol,  
Sergeant R. Weston Surrey, to Pte. Joan Griffiths (1929-33), A.T.S., Bulwark.
- Grimmer— Walker—        On July 5th, at St. Mary's, Portskewett  
G. Grimmer to Joyce Walker (1935-39).
- Norris-Searl.                On July 22nd, Chepstow Parish Church,  
H. Norris to Grace L Searl (1927-32), of Chepstow.
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### ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

Major J. H. Webb, M.A., O.B.E., T.D., 2nd Batt. Mon. Regt.

Captain W. H. M. Baker (1927-34), R.A.

F. B. Baker, H.M. Navy.

Driver H. Ball (1927-32).

A/C. J. Banfield (1938-39), R.A.F.

A/C. G. Bennet (1932-36), R.A.F.

W.Op. A. Bennet (1931-34), R.A.F.

F. H. Billing, Special Signal Corps, R. Fusiliers.

A/C. C. Beddis (1926-29), R.A.F.

A/C/W. M. Arnold (1934-38), W.A.A.F.

Cpl. A. Bullock (1924-28), E.R.S.

Sergt. V. Bullock (1928-33), R.A.P.C.

Sergt. E. Buller (1935-37), R.A.F.

Sapper D. Chubb (1933-38), R.E.

A/C/W. J. Brown 1933-39, W.A.A.F.

Pte. S. F. Brace (1935-39), S.W.B.

W/A/C. F. Coles (1932-35), R.A.F.

2nd Lieut. J. Coles (1925-29).

Sergt. O.C. M. Cook (1931-36), A.A.F.

Sergt. J. Cowie (1924-29), R.A.F.

Signalman R. Davies (1931-34), Royal Corps Signals).

Sergt. Dobbs (1928-32), IstMons.

A/C. Attewell, (1936-40), R.A.F.

Sergt. K. Ellis (1931-35), 1st Mons.

H. Farr (1931-36). 1st Mons.

L/A/C. J. Felton (1928-33), R.A.F.

A/C. D. Cullinane, R.A.F.

Pte. M. Cullinane (1936-40), A.T.S.

Pte. •S. Cullinane (1936-40), A.T.S.

C. Dibdin, R.A.F.

Pte. Betty Foster (1930-34), A.T.S.

L/A/A. F. Fyfield (1936-38), R.A.F.

E. Francis, R.A.M.C.

A/C. R. J. Fisher (1926-29), R.A.F.

Cadet T. Forster (1934-40), R.A.F.

Cpl. J. Green (1931-34), R.N., R.A.F.

Signalman A. J. Griffiths (1929-36). W.A.A.F.

Sergt. T. Griffiths (1933-39), R.A.F.

A/C. L. Gittings (1928-32), R.A.F.

Apprentice P. Groves (1930-35), R.N.R.

A/C. H. K. Hill (1932-36), R.A.F.

Sergt. G. Hill (1929-35), R.A.F.

Pte. M. Hill (1932-36), R.A.S.C.

A/C/W. R. Hillman (1934-37), W.A.A.F.

L/Cpl. J. Howells (1932-37), 1st Mons.

A/C2. T. Hunt (1933-39), R.A.F.

Captain Chaplain H. M. Hughes (1925-31), Welch Regt.  
 2nd Lieut. H. W. D. Hickman (1929-30), R.A.S.C.  
 Sergt. F. J. Hoare (1929), 3rd Mons.  
 A/C. D. Isaac (1930-36), R.A.F.  
 Sergt. R. Hardwick (1934-39), R.A.F.  
 Gunner R. Harris (1931-35), R.A.  
 J. Lewis (1934-39), R.N.  
 A/C.2 Herbert (1935-39), R.A F  
 Pte. Hillier (1932-36), A.T.S  
 A.C.2 C. J. Hill (1935-39), R.A.F.  
 Pte R Hicks (1929-33), 3rd Mons.  
 A/C. Hobbs (1928-32), R.A F  
 GPU, C. Harding (1930-32), R.A.F.  
 L/Cpl. J.C. Harding (1930-32), Signals.  
 A/C. R. S. Hart, R.A.F.  
 WA/C. R. G. Hobbs (1933-34), R.A.F  
 J. R. Hill (1936-30), R.N.  
 Sergt. G. Jones (1926-30), R.A.F  
 G. Jones (1933-35), W.R.E.N.S.  
 Cpl. S. Jones (1931-35), R.A.F  
 Midshipman D. J. Jones (1934-39), M.N  
 L/A/C. R. D. Knight (1928-33) RAF  
 A/C.2 M. T. B. Kea8 (1932-37), R.A.F;  
 Cpl. C. Lewis (1931-38), R.A  
 Lieut. Madley (1928-34), RE  
 Pte. J. Mansell (1928-32), S.W.B  
 Cadet D. E. R. Lang (1937-41) RAF  
 A/C/W 2 B. Liddiard (1934-36), W.A.A.F.  
 L/Cpl.J.H. Knight (1931-37), R.A.F.  
 Bdr. C. Matthews (1929-33), 1st Mons.  
 A/C/W.2 M. Matthews (1929-33), 1st Mons.  
 Bdr. W.H. Matthews (1929-33) S/L. Regt.  
 Pte R. Matthews (1931-36), Intelligence Section  
 L/Sergt. J. Moore (1931-38) RA  
 A/C/W/. G. Martin (1933-36) W.A.A.F.  
 A/C. J. Nicholson, R.A F  
 Pte. B. Nicholson (1931-36), A.T.S.  
 Cpl. L. Nicholson, W.A.A.F. (1928-30)  
 Leading Photographer J. V. Oakes (1931-33) RN  
 Signaller T.D. Oakes (1923-25), R.N.  
 Tel F. M. Oakes (1930-32), R.N.  
 Pte. L.E. Mackie (1936-4I) Black Watch.  
 L/A/C/ E- R. Parry (1928-32), RAF  
 E R. Penny (1928-32), R.N.  
 L/Cpl. A. Pinfold (1928-34) 1st Mons.  
 L/A/C. H. Pitt (1933-32), R.A.F.  
 Gunner Signaller J. Porter (1931-35).

A/C.2 B.Powell (1924-27), R.A.F.  
 Cpl. M. Perry (1932-37) W.A.A.F.  
 L/A/C, H C. C. Price (1932-37), R.A F  
 Sergt. H. F. Price (1932-37), R.A.F  
 Sergt. D. Pritchard (1930-35) 1st Mons.  
 J. Probyn (1937-38)  
 Sub-Lieut.L Rowlands (1930-35), F.A.A  
 Sergt..P J. Reynolds (1924-27), R A.F. India  
 Sub-Lieut. A Rowlands, R.N.  
 A/C/W. K. Rosewell (1933-35) WAAF  
 L/Bdr. C. Saddler (1931-35), 1<sup>st</sup>. Mons  
 A/C. A. H. Sheppard (1935-38), R.A.F.  
 Gunner J. Shaddick (1935-38), R.N.  
 Cpl. R. T. Smith (1930-35), 1st Mons.  
 2nd Lieut. C. E. Spooner (1926-30), S.W.B.  
 Staff-Sergt. L. R. Spooner (1924-28), R.A.PC  
 L/Cpl. H. Stoddart (1931-36).  
 R. C. Stoddart.  
 Pte. A. Stephens (1930-37), 1st Mons.  
 Pte. U. Sims (1934-37), A.T.S.  
 1st Mate C. J. Thomas (1924-30), M.N.  
 Pte. Clifford Thomas (1933-36), I.T.C  
 Pte. R. F. Townsend (1935-39), R.E.  
 E. Thomas (1932-35), R.A.F.  
 Musician D. Trivitt (1931-34), R.N.  
 Sergt. B. Trivitt (1935-37), R.A.F.  
 A.C.2 D. Thomas (1934-38), R.A.F.  
 L/A/C. B L. Tamplin (1934-40), R.A.F.  
 Cpl. D. M. Trueman (1934-36), A.T.S.  
 Sergt. M. Trueman (1928-33), 1st Mons.  
 Cadet J. R. C. Saunders (1936-39), R A F  
 Cpl, R. Vincent (1930-37), R.A.F  
 Pte. J. Wallen (1933-37), S.W.B.  
 Sergt. S. H. Waters (1924-27), R.A.F.  
 A/C. J. Ware (1934-38), R.A.F  
 S. Ward (1927-31), R.C.O.S  
 L. Ward (1929-34), R.C.O.S.  
 2nd Lieut. C. J. WaTkins (1924-29), S.W B  
 Bdr. W. Weeks (1930-33), 1st Mons.  
 C/P/O. H. Welsh (1927-31) R.N  
 L/Bdr. R. D. B. Wheeler (1930-37), R.A  
 D. M. West (1937-40), R.N.TE  
 2nd Lieut. D. Woodgate (1925-32), R.A.  
 Driver S. A. Woodgate (1928-34), R.A.S.C  
 Driver A. W. Woodgate (1929-35), R.A.S.C.  
 Cpl. B. H. Wright (1934-37), R.A.F  
 L/A/C. A. R. P. Williams, R.A.F. '

Trooper J. Manson (1932-37), N. Somerset Yeomanry (Prisoner of War).  
 Petty Officer N. Presley (1926-29) R\_N. (Reported Missing).  
 A/C. E. Blackaby (1926-32), R.A.F. (Reported Missing).

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