



## **Press Cuttings**

### **Knaresborough Post**

**10 February 1940**

#### **Unexploded Bombs**

Pending full consideration of the matter by the A.R.P. Committee, Mr R. R. Allan has been nominated as the official responsible on behalf of the Council for issuing orders in respect of unexploded bombs requiring to be dealt with.

#### **Billeting of Homeless People**

10 The Clerk has been instructed to inform the Chief Billeting Officer and the Medical officer of proposals for providing billets for people rendered homeless by air raids.

#### **Night Watchman**

In view of the fact that night messages are now received direct by the officers responsible for the various branches of the A.R.P. organisation, it has been decided to terminate the services of the temporary night watchman at the Council Offices.

#### **Evacuation Scheme**

The Majority of the evacuated school children having now returned to Leeds, on 52 being left in the town, the offer of Mr H. B. Holgate, billeting clerk, to terminate his appointment as from January 26<sup>th</sup>, has been accepted. Mr A. S. Robinson, Chief Billeting Officer, retains control of the re-organised evacuation arrangements.

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### **Knaresborough Post**

**10 February 1940**

#### **Organist Leaving**

Mr Geoffrey Cleasby, of Park Avenue, organist of Holy Trinity Church since last July, is being called up for military service, like his colleague, Mr Eric A. Holden, of the Parish Church, and leaves next week for an R.A.M.C. depot. During his absence, his place at Trinity will be taken by Coun. W. H. Dunkley

**Knaresborough Post**

**10 February 1940**

**SCRIVEN.**

**WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

10 The monthly meeting was held on Monday afternoon when the attendance was smaller than usual owing to the weather. Letters of thanks received from men on active service who had received Christmas parcels were read. Mrs Jacob Smith, the President, announced that the splendid number of 196 garments had been sent to the Red Cross depot, including 47 pairs of mittens, 19 pairs of bedsocks, 19 pairs of pyjamas, 93 many-tailed bandages, 2 shirts, etc., as the result of the working party which is held each Thursday afternoon from two until four at Somerley, Boroughbridge Road, and is open to non-members. A keep-fit class is to start Wednesday next from 7 to 8pm at the Hut, and will be taken by Miss Joyce Hewlett, the Harrogate gymnast. An original and amusing entertainment was given by Miss Ada Ward, who is shortly going out to France to entertain the troops. Her quick and clever blackboard drawings caused much laughter. A vote of thanks was proposed by Miss Anderson, and seconded by Mrs Knight. The monthly competition which was for the best pot of marmalade, was won by Miss Randall. Next month's competition will include recipes for the best war-time dishes, as well as the bulb competition previously announced.

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**Knaresborough Post**

**16 March 1940**

**Received by the Queen.** – Miss Winifred Jacob Smith, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Jacob Smith, Somerley, Boroughbridge Road, had the honour of being selected as one of the Women's Land Army representatives to attend a reception by the Queen in London on Thursday. Miss Smith has been acting as secretary for the North Riding branch of the Land Army.

**23 March 1940**

**LEEDS EVACUEES' THANKS**

30 On their return to Leeds after a period of nearly seven months in Knaresborough, the teachers and students of the Junior Art Department of Leeds College of Art, wish to thank those Knaresborough householders, billeting officers and local education authority officials who have so willingly and generously done their bit to make their stay happy and comfortable.

Although all evacuees are naturally pleased to be returning home, there will be many regrets at leaving the district, as friends have been made, and if events make a second evacuation necessary, all hope that their reception area will once again be Knaresborough.



**Knaresborough Post**

**4 May 1940**

**WOMEN'S LAND ARMY**

Sir, - The moment which some of us had foreseen has now arrived, when the demand for Women Land Workers is beginning to exceed the supply. Over 5,000 are already at work. We shall therefore be very glad to receive further applications from suitable women and girls who are robust and fond of country life.

10 There are now two sections in the Women's Land Army – the regular force, who enrol for the duration of the war, and an auxiliary force for seasonal labour, who undertake to give not less than four weeks' continuous service.

Both receive a minimum wage of 28s for a 48 hour week (if over the age of 18), or the county rate, whichever is the higher; and there are training schemes for members of the regular force.

Both sections are essential factors in the campaign for increased production on the land, and both represent a vital service for our country.

Will intending volunteers in the West Riding apply to:- Miss G. Harrison, 59 Kent Road, Harrogate; in the East Riding to: Miss Grotrian, Roos House, Roos, E. Yorks; and in the North Riding to: Miss Jacob Smith, Somerley, Knaresborough. – Yours

AGNES BINGLEY  
(Chairman West Riding).

20 JULIET CARVER  
(Chairman East Riding)  
KATE GRAHAM (Chairman North Riding)

**Knaresborough Post**

**18 May 1940**

**SCRIVEN**

30 **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.** – The monthly meeting was held on Monday. Mrs Jacob Smith presided over a good attendance. After the usual business, Miss Anderson, who had been the delegate to the half-yearly Council meeting in York, gave her report.

Lady Graham gave an interesting talk on Cyprus. As a result of the Red Cross Sewing Party 336 garments have been sent into the depot. On Friday evening the members from Scriven entertained soldiers. The Drama Class gave three plays, and refreshments were provided by the people of Old Scriven.

**Knaresborough Post**

**25 May 1940**

**KNARESBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Aire Raid Fire Precautions.**

**Stirrup Hand Pumps.**

A Limited Number will be Loaned Free of Charge to approved responsible persons.

**Conditions**

1. Recipients will be required to form a Fire Party of 3 persons and accept responsibility for the safe custody of the appliance.
- 10 2. Fire Parties will be required to undergo a brief course of training (3 sessions of 40 minutes each) and give an undertaking to assist their neighbours in the event of fire caused by enemy action.

Applications from responsible persons to be made to:-

The Clerk to the Council, Council Offices, York Place, Knaresborough or to

The officer in Charge of the Knaresborough Fire Station, Gracious Street.

P.D. SUGARS

Clerk to the Council

Council Offices

Knaresborough

20 21 May 1940

**Knaresborough Post**

**25 May 1940**

- “**para-Potters.**” – The number of Local Defence Volunteers enrolled at Knaresborough police station since Mr Eden’s appeal last week is 240. Col. V. J. Greenwood is Group Commander for the Harrogate district, with Col. G. M. Glynton, of Follifoot, as Assistant Group Commander. Col. S. Rhodes, of Whixley, has been appointed Company Commander for the area lying between the Rivers Nidd and Ure. Col. Rhodes has assumed command, and is at present engaged on the task of selecting suitable men for appointment as platoon leaders.
- 30 When this has been done, Volunteers will be asked to get in touch with the leasers appointed for their own districts.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**15 June 1940**

**Stretcher-Bearers.** – A practice for volunteer stretcher-bearers will be held at Scotton Banks Emergency Hospital at 4pm today (Saturday), when ambulances from the Barkstone Ash area will be in use. More offers of help from men willing to undertake this very necessary duty would be welcomed.

10 **War-Time Cookery.** – A course of lectures on war time cookery, which started in Knaresborough last week, is being enthusiastically followed by local housewives, over a hundred attending last week's two classes. The lectures are given each Tuesday at Scriven Women's Institute (2.15pm) and at the Modern School (7.30pm) by Miss D. Jacob Smith, who has already conducted similar courses at Ripon, Huby and Horsforth. No rationed foods are used, but in spite of this restriction of scope, many appetising and nourishing dishes are produced. Admission is free.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**27 June 1940**

20 **Appeal for Guns.** – The appeal for 12 bore shotguns for the use of Local Defence Volunteers has met with a good response in the Knaresborough district, quite a number of useful weapons having been brought in to the police station. Some pistols, and a German rifle from the last war, have also been handed in.

A.R.P. and L.D.V. – Incidentally, there have been strong complaints locally that in spite of the Government instruction that no A.R.P. workers were to be accepted for service with the Defence Volunteers, a number have, in fact, been enrolled in this district. At the same time, offers of help from men with considerable military experience, it is stated, have been ignored.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**29 June 1940**

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**Honey for Minesweepers.** – An interesting feature of the Modern School's effort on behalf of minesweepers is recalled by the death of Mrs F. A. Woolley, wife of the well-known local apiarist, of "Beeholme," Greengate Lane. Mrs Woolley dedicated a hive and colony of bees at her home to the minesweeper Righto, one of the two adopted by the school last September.

The hive has already yielded upwards of sixty pounds of ripe honey, which the scholars themselves have extracted. This, together with the clover and heather honey yield later in the season, should prove a very acceptable gift to the men manning the minesweeper.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**20 July 1940**

**Books for the Troops.** – Many books and magazines for local men serving with the Forces were contributed by residents in response to an appeal made some time ago. Three parcels were despatched to France by Mr W. B. Wilkinson, but did not reach the men owing to the Dunkirk evacuation. The books eventually returned to this country, and were forwarded to the local unit, by whom they were greatly appreciated. The remainder of the books given were handed to B.E.F. men who were temporarily billeted in Knaresborough before rejoining their various units.

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## **Knaresborough Post**

**27 July 1940**

### **KNARESBOROUGH PETTY SESSIONS**

Wednesday: Before Col. W. F. Collins (Chairman), Lady Evelyn Collins, Mr W. H. Ferrand, Col. E. D. Meysey-Thompson, Capt. W. H. Featherston, Sir T. Lawson-Tancred, Mr S. Pickersgill, Mr J. Hainsworth, Mr R. Holmes, and Major Whately Thompson.

#### **Lighting Offences**

Wilfred B. Wilkinson, stationer, and George A. Outhwaite, bank clerk, both of Knaresborough, were fined £4 each for allowing lights to show during the black-out.

20 Outhwaite was also ordered to pay 4s costs.

## **Knaresborough Post**

**3 August 1940**

### **MACKIE-PLAXTON**

The wedding took place at Knaresborough Parish Church on Saturday of Miss Eleanor Plaxton, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Plaxton, of Scriven, Knaresborough, and Mr James R. Mackie, eldest son of Mr James Mackie, of York. The service was conducted by the Rev. B. K. Kissack, Vicar of Knaresborough and Rural Dean.

30 The bride wore a dress of ice blue satin, with veil and shoes to tone and carried a bouquet of pink carnations.

She was attended by her sister, Miss Doreen Plaxton, and by Miss Winnie Hewson, who wore dresses of peach taffeta, with shoes to tone. The bridesmaids' bouquets were of sweet peas. Mr William Cross, of York, was best man.



### Knaresborough Post

3 August 1940

10 **Lumber Camp Holiday.** – A number of senior boys from King James’s Grammar School, Knaresborough, under the charge of one of the masters, Mr R. B. Whellock, are spending a “National Service” holiday at a lumber camp in the Pateley Bridge area, where they are cutting pit props for a local timber firm.

### Knaresborough Post

31 August 1940

#### A.R.P. APATHY AT KNARESBORO’

There have been many calls in the past for volunteers to bring some of Knaresborough’s A.R.P. services up to full strength and to create reserves for others, but so far, most of the appeals seem to have fallen on deaf ears, and the results have been most disappointing to those who have the thankless task of organising the local protective services on a voluntary

basis. Now that indiscriminate bombing by the Nazis is increasing, and day and night raids are being extended to widely separated parts of the country, it is more than ever essential that every area should have its A.R.P. services fully manned, and with adequate reserves available to relieve the strain on those volunteer who have so far kept the ...

### **Knaresborough Post**

**7 September 1940**

10 **Hitler Helps Red Cross.** – Hitler aided the Red Cross to the tune of nearly six pounds when one of his ‘planes raided a North-Eastern area on Saturday night. One of the bombs fell near a house adjoining a main road, damaging the roof and windows, and on Sunday morning there were crowds of people viewing the crater and the damaged house. The chief officer of the local fire brigade turned this curiosity to good account, placing a collecting sheet near the gate, and inviting the sightseers to contribute to the Red Cross. The public responded generously, and in a few hours a sum of £5. 16s. 7½d was contributed.

### **Knaresborough Post**

**21 September 1940**



**Knaresborough Post**

**28 September 1940**

*Correspondence*

**HOME GUARD**

10 Sir, - May I, through your columns, bring to the notice of the inhabitants of Knaresborough the existence in their town of a force of the Home Guard, which I have the honour to command. Since last June these men, all belonging to Knaresborough, have been quietly and unobtrusively training to defend the town against any Germans who may arrive in the neighbourhood by parachute, plane or otherwise, and have been doing this by surrendering their few leisure hours in the evenings.

The Home Guard, I can assure you, is now ready. We have so far received no help of any kind from the citizens of Knaresborough, with one exception, beyond what has been given by our own members. The Governors and Headmaster of King James's Grammar School. Have allowed us the use of their cricket field and pavilion. We are grateful to them.

20 Every night from dark to dawn in all weathers a watch is kept and an in-lying picket is on duty. In the event of the town being bombed an air raid picket will be at the disposal of the police and A.R.P. authorities to render any help that may be required. The headquarters of the home Guard have to move into new quarters, and help is asked to make them comfortable. Prospects for the comfort of our men on duty during the long cold nights of winter are not good. It was only this morning that I saw a picture in the morning newspapers of the ladies of Rochdale supplying their Home Guard with hot refreshment! Cannot the ladies of this Yorkshire town do what those of a neighbouring Lancashire town can do?

Donations and gifts will be gratefully received by me or the honorary treasurer at the headquarters, Home Guard, and enquires can be made at that address any evening after 7.00pm

30 ... Yours

C.V. EDWARDS

Platoon Commander

Knaresborough

**Knaresborough Post**

**12 October 1940**

**Honey for minesweepers.** – Tins of honey are among the comforts sent periodically by the Modern School to the men of the minesweeper “Righto,” which was adopted by the school in the early days of the war. In all, 75 pounds of honey, including 16 pounds of heather honey just extracted, have been produced by the hive which was dedicated to the “Righto” by the late Mrs F. A. Woolley, of Greengate Lane.

**Knaresborough Post**

**12 October 1940**

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Three days’ holiday at the beginning of this week, pupils of the potato-picking for local farmers. Mr Jacob Smith, of Scriven, and Mr Webster, of Hopewell House, on whose farms they helped with the potato harvest, spoke highly of their services.

**Knaresborough Post**

**19 October 1940**



Honey for Minesweepers. Mr. F. A. Woolley giving a demonstration at Knaresborough Modern School with the "Righto" hive, honey from which is being sent to the crew of the minesweeper of that name, adopted by the school.

*[Staff Photo*

**Knaresborough Post**

**23 November 1940**

**KNARESBOROUGH CONCERT**

Members of a Tank Regiment were present at another excellent concert at Knaresborough on Sunday when they were entertained by a party from Harrogate.

Compere and comedian Mr Clive Addison was well supported by Miss Stella Nathan in an attractive display of tap dancing, Miss Betty Atcheson with several amusing monologues, and Mr Arthur Barrett, who sang a selection of popular ballads, accompanied by Mr J. W.

Spencer at the piano. The show was arranged by Mrs Grocott, and was greatly appreciated by the large audience.