

## New Forest Remembers WWII Project

### Oral History Team: Transcription Document

|                         |                           |                    |                   |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Contributor's name      | Mrs Freda Beryl Jones     | Name code          | FBJ               |
| Interviewer's name      | Peter Hutchings           | Code number        | 014               |
| Audio Typist name       | Helen Wallbridge          | Transcription Date | 25/01/2013        |
| Transcription file name | FBJ - Freda Beryl Jones - |                    | Transcription.doc |

#### Web Pages:

Oral History article:

<https://nfknowledge.org/contributions/memories-of-a-lymington-school-girl/#map=10/-1.54/50.76/0/20:0:0.6|34:1:1|35:1:1>

Project information:

<https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/discover/history-culture/new-forest-remembers/>

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|--|------|-----|------------|---------------------------|
| File name  | FBJ` | 014 | 0002M0.WAV | Interview Date 08/10/2012 |
| <p>I'm Mrs Freda Jones, I'm aged 79.</p> <p><b>Key Words</b><br/>Freda Jones<br/>Lymington</p> |      |     |            |                           |

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| File name  | FBJ` | 014 | 0003M0.WAV | Interview Date 08/10/2012 |
| <p>Yeah, the school days were very nice. We used to, my sister and myself, used to walk to school. When the air raid sirens went we had to drop everything and just run up to the air raid shelters. Sometimes we were there quite some time, and then the siren would go so then we'd (laughs) go back down to school again (laughs).</p> <p><b>Keywords</b><br/>School<br/>Air raid siren<br/>Air raid shelter</p> |      |     |            |                           |

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Lymington Town Hall, Avenue Road, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9ZG

Email [archaeology@newforestnpa.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology@newforestnpa.gov.uk)

[www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/wwii](http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/wwii)

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|---|------|-----|------------|---------------------------|
| File name   | FBJ` | 014 | 0004M0.WAV | Interview Date 08/10/2012 |
| <p>When the sirens went we were quite pleased because then we didn't have any lessons to do, and it was generally when maths was around. So to be quite honest we missed quite a lot of schooling, because we were always up and down from the air raid shelters.</p> <p><b>Keywords</b><br/> School<br/> Air raid Shelters</p> |      |     |            |                           |

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| <p>We went to the air raid shelters quite often, it was two or three times in a day. I think that lasted all the week, two or three times, because of the bombers going over. And also, next to St Thomas's Church was Fords', which is now going to be Wetherspoons, the Germans dropped a spare bomb that they had and it went right through the middle of Fords and it didn't touch the church and it didn't touch the dairy next door. I was staying in Church Lane with my school friend and there was heck of a noise and of course it was in the middle of the night so we had to wait to the next day to see what had happened. Also there was ack-ack guns down Normandy Lane, I think it was in Hallsey's Farm. Also, there's a bomb dropped, I think round- about Viney Road.</p> <p><b>Keywords</b><br/> Air raid shelter<br/> Lymington<br/> St Thomas's Church<br/> Fords<br/> Church Lane<br/> Hallseys Farm<br/> Viney Road<br/> Normandy Lane</p> |      |     |            |                           |

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| <p>The air raid shelters were quite dark going into them. I think we had to go down two or three steps. And then there was seats both sides, which we had to, it was for the whole of the class. Each air raid shelter is for one class. There are seats on both sides so we had to sit down and keep quiet (laughs). And then there was a ladder and an escape, sort of, hatch. If anything happened to the main, sort of door, then we had to go up this ladder to get out from the escape hatch. Yeah, It's quite nice down there. I'm trying to think....., it smelt something along the line of Jeyes fluid from what I can recall (laughs).</p> <p><b>Keywords</b><br/> Air raid shelter</p> |      |     |            |                           |

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| File name   | FBJ` | 014 | 0007M0.WAV | Interview Date 08/10/2012 |
| <p>Yeah it was quite quiet because we didn't have many toys to play with, because one couldn't get them. I did hear that one of the boats was bombed, with oranges on them, and the oranges came floating (laughs) along up the river. But we were told not to touch them because they were full of salt. I should think we had a military presence somewhere in Portmore more because towards the end of the war, my parents, myself, and my sister used to walk around there to Portmore and we sae the concrete, sort of bases, where I think the tanks used to stop and then they were there one day I suppose and gone soon after. Other than that we didn't have..., we couldn't go out at all because parents wouldn't let us. We'd to come home from school and stay indoors. That's as far as I know I can remember (laughs).</p> <p><b>Keywords</b><br/> Oranges<br/> Portmore<br/> Concrete bases<br/> Tanks</p> |      |     |            |                           |

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| File name  | FBJ` | 014 | 0008M0.WAV | Interview Date 08/10/2012 |
| <p>Well, we did have something to eat, we had rice pudding. I think mum could get some little off-cuts of rashers so she'd make her roly-poly (laughs) and we'd have slices of that. Course, Dad did grow potatoes and vegetables in the garden so we were able to have a little bit of greenery and also we had chickens in the back of the garden so we had a few eggs. But otherwise, I often think to myself, well what did Mother feed us (laughs) with? Well, we just got by with whatever because she was a jolly good cook, or she seemed to be.</p> <p><b>Keywords</b><br/> Food<br/> Garden<br/> Cooking</p> |      |     |            |                           |

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| File name   | FBJ` | 014 | 0009M0.WAV | Interview Date 08/10/2012 |
| <p>We did have Millers the Butchers, no.. Millers the Bakers, used to come round with horse and cart and we used to get the bread. And then we had Mr Weeks the Milkman. Mum used to have a jug of milk in the morning and he'd come around again in the afternoon and we'd get another jug of milk. And then we had Mr Gale, used to come round I think every other day with the oil for the paraffin, well paraffin oil, for the stoves and that's about all I can remember of the three people coming round with various things.</p> <p><b>Keywords</b><br/> Millers Bakers<br/> Mr Weeks the Milkman<br/> Mr Gale</p> |      |     |            |                           |

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| File name   | FBJ` | 014 | 0010M0.WAV | Interview Date 08/10/2012 |
| <p>At the age of ten, my brother that was in the Merchant Navy, he came home for my tenth birthday and he bought me home a watch. And my younger sister, he bought home a doll, which she called Barbara. And on his...and he left England on... the end of March and he went with a convoy, Russian convoy, and he was in the SS Lancastrian Prince and... I think they were in the sight of Boston, America, and this German torpedo hit his ship and there was no survivors as far as I know. And he was the age of seventeen. We had a telegram from the War Office, which my eldest sister has, or had. But other than that... The doll is in Winchester Museum. I phoned them up and asked them if they would like it and they were highly delighted, so it was taken up to Winchester where it still is I hope (laughs).</p> <p><b>Keywords</b><br/>Merchant Navy Convoy<br/>SS Lancastrian Prince<br/>Telegram<br/>Doll</p> |      |     |            |                           |

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