

Report from The Lynn News and Advertiser

Duty Well Done At Dersingham

Transcription by Elizabeth Fiddick ©

Mr. R. Linford and Mr. A. L. Tuck were Dersingham's first wardens in April 1938. The following joined in September 1938, and are still wardens: Messrs. Lloyd Pratt, T.H. Potter, J. Jackson, jun., H. Prime, H. Standaloft, W. Brown, G.W. Blowers, D. Terrington, C.L. Rayner, W.R. Senter, A.J. Mason-Jones. Those joining later were Messrs. G.B. Coote, A.W. Rolfe, A.E. Tingle, G. Batterbee, A.J. Smith. Capt. Martin was head until he resigned in 1940 and was succeeded by Mr. W. Lloyd Pratt.

Wardens posts have been at "The Oaks", "The Feathers", and Mr. Linford's house. Six wardens who formed an efficient rescue team were: Messrs. W.H. Walden, C. Lincoln, M.W. Taplin, S.C. Barnard, and J.C. Walker.

Someone has been on duty day and night since September 1939, Messrs. Linford, Jackson, Prime and Lloyd Pratt having taken night duty. Wardens who joined the Home Guard reserve were Messrs. W. Lloyd Pratt, H. Prime, H. Standaloft, G. Batterbee, G. Blowers, R. Linford, L. Tuck, C., Rayner, M. Taplin, S. Barnard, J. Walker, C. Lincoln.

Mr. Lloyd Pratt pays tribute to the loyal service of all helpers especially Mr. Linford and Mr. Standaloft. Wardens, Police, Casualty Service have worked together in Dersingham as a team. The work has given many an opportunity of knowing and appreciating others better.

Dersingham's efficient casualty service included trained stretcher bearers under Mrs. C. Coxon (Senior Casualty Officer) Other members were Mesdames Bunting, Burton, Boyce, Barrett, Wilson, Stoveld, Glyde, the Misses Rout, E. Linford, M. Stanton, Reynolds, Goss, Standaloft, Keeler, Rolfe, Hyner, Dennis, Goff, Athow, Associated doctors: Dr. A. C. M. Coxon, Col. Morphew.

Stretcher-bearers: Messrs. Drayton, Welham, Fisher, A.W. Houchen, S.H. Emmerson, J. Playford.

The first aid point was at "The Feathers" and later "The Dun Cow". There have innumerable lectures, examinations, and exercises (in which Sergt. W. Keeler has rendered invaluable help).

Dersingham Special Constables have co-operated readily in Civil Defence. They have done 50 duties a year, mainly enforcing the blackout, and looking out for parachutists or fifth columnists. All were trained to deal with air raid incidents or gas attacks. Not a bomb has been dropped (so far) in Dersingham.

The Oaks was a large house that stood next to the pottery in Chapel Road. It was badly damaged by fire in 1965 and eventually demolished to make way for the first new Surgery, School and housing estate. Mr. Lloyd Pratt was the occupant at the time of this report.

The Dun Cow stood on the site of the present supermarket.

R. Linford built the shop on the corner of Station Road by the traffic lights.

G. Blowers ran a blacksmiths in Manor Road opposite the Westhall cottages.