

Domindus & Company

From: "DomindusandCo" <Domindusandco@btopenworld.com>
To: "mmraraty" <mmraraty@btinternet.com>
Sent: 09 June 2008 18:09
Subject: Re: Bridge Booklet & recollections etc.

Dear Mr. Raraty,

Thank you for your prompt response. I will send a further cheque for £2 once I get home. Address is 28, Lowfield Street, Dartford DA1 1HD.

Like you, in retrospect, I think it a most odd place to which to evacuate your family from Dartford, further forward into the potential firing line! However, it was in the early part of the War, probably before France fell & our home was on the route into London for the Luftwaffe. I recall that we (Mother, self & brother, Robin) were lodged with a Mr. Alf. & Mrs. Grace Vinten at 1, Mill Terrace which I think was a fairly new, yellow brick, Council house with a large garden, on the corner at the junction of two Roads. They had two sons, David & Graham, of whom I have a photo. Mr. Vinten worked I think for the local Council. Mrs. V. was often hop picking etc., an activity in which we all participated.

My recollections are sparse & mostly peaceful. Gleaning corn in the field opposite, helping put the sheaves of wheat into stooks, the pouring of paraffin on a wasps nest in the hedge & setting fire to it, playing & 'helping' in the garden, reading yellow covered Rupert books & trying to ride a bicycle from the shed behind the steps up to the back door. The Road at the front soon turned into a rough track at the end of which were some I think WWI trenches or something of that sort & ? a disused railway. The other matter I recall, was the fear of elderly people of being sent to the 'Bridge Union' which seem to be regarded by them as a virtual death sentence.

On the war aspect, I remember Soldiers setting up a barrier in the side road & letting off smoke bombs there. However, my most vivid memory is of being taken to Canterbury just after the 'Baedeker' Raid.

I have deliberately not looked up dates nor Road Names as none entered my cognisance then. I have not been back for many years.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Draper
 Peter Draper

* *Enclosed.*

President, Dartford Historical & Antiquarian Society

----- Original Message -----

From: mmraraty
To: Domindusandco@btopenworld.com
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2008 3:10 PM
Subject: Bridge Booklet

Dear Mr Draper,
 Bridge PO has passed your letter to me for reply. I very much regret to say that the information in the Journal is incorrect: the cover price of the booklet is actually £3.50! A cheque for a further £2 would be welcome. I'll ignore the postal costs in exchange for any reminiscences you may have about your time in Bridge - a strange place to be evacuated to, under the circumstances, so it must have been quite interesting, though maybe a small boy would not be too aware. . . .

I am very gratified to know that our fame has spread to Dartford.

Please send your additional £2 (for Bridge & District Hist Soc.) to me at
 41 Bridge Down, Bridge, Canterbury, CT4 5BA

Regards
 Maurice Raraty

09/06/2008