

Jan 23rd 2003

SHIRLEY

Laurence George
Samuel

*Died peacefully, in
his sleep, at home,
in Bridge, on
January 21, 2003.*

Donations, in his mem-
ory, please, to the
Ryder Cheshire Foun-
dation, 82 Queen's
Road, Brighton BN1
3XE (preferably with
gift aid declaration), to
be transmitted to the
Raphael Leper Colony,
Dehra Dun, Uttar
Pradesh State, India.



MUSICAL TRIBUTE: The New Orleans jazz band joins the cortege

Ref: pd 349509

New Orleans jazz send-off for villager

THE streets of Bridge were lined with mourners on Sunday for the funeral of former sub-postmaster Laurence Shirley.

More than 300 people looked on as a horse and carriage made its way through the High Street towards the village's St Peter's Church.

Former campaigner and councillor Mr Shirley's last wishes were met as a New Orleans-style jazz band joined the cortege.

A celebration of life was held at the church followed by a reception at the Red Lion and the Plough and Harrow pubs.

Mr Shirley's son Nick said: "I'm very proud of my father and was glad to see so many people in the High Street. He was a very popular man. There was a real sense of community spirit about the day."

Mr Shirley's widow Ann said: "We want to say thank-you to all the people who sent cards and letters and have made donations to the Ryder Cheshire Foundation."



FUNERAL PROCESSION: The horse and carriage makes its way through Bridge High Street

Ref: pd 349510

Feb. 6th 2003



Views from the sky

WESTERN AVENUE and Mill Lane, Bridge, can be seen in this week's aerial view. Readers can order copies of the picture direct from Channel Photography, which does not undertake door-to-door selling.

All orders should be made via the form on this



Views from the sky

RIVERSIDE CLOSE and High Street can be seen in this aerial view of Bridge.

Readers can order copies of the picture direct from Channel Photographs.







Order form

7" x 5"	£8.50
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Bird's-eye view from the sky

THE STREET, at Patricxbourne, is the subject of today's aerial view.

Readers can order copies of the picture direct from Channel Photography by completing the form, left.

Channel Photography does not undertake door-to-door selling. All orders should be made via the form on this page.

June 26 2003

Girl's picture could be a ticket to USA

A COLOURFUL drawing by a 10-year-old girl has won her family tickets to a theme park and the chance to scoop a holiday in Florida.

The picture of a jar of sweets by Ayshea Ahearn, of Dering Road, Bridge, has been chosen as one of 50 runner-up winners in the contest, organised by the convenience store chain Londis and sponsored by Ribena.

But now her effort will be judged with others for the star prize of the prize holiday and the picture printed onto millions of Londis carrier bags and 100 Londis lorries.

Ayshea is pictured, right, receiving her theme parks tickets and a certificate from Rajit Dhaliwal from the Bridgeway Londis store.

Ref: pd 435182



ASHWORTH

On May 25, 2003, Joan Healey of Bridge near Canterbury, aged 89 years.

She will be greatly missed by all her family, former colleagues and many friends.

Funeral service takes place at Barham Crematorium on Monday, June 9, 2003 at 3.00pm. Flowers to C.W.Lyons and Son Ltd 70 Military Road, Canterbury Kent. Tel: 01227 463508 or donations if desired to the NSPCC.

Family-run bakeries on sale for £1m

ONE of the district's most successful bakery businesses has been put on the market for more than £1million.

The father and son partnership of Tony and Gary Mogridge are selling the chain of Burgate Bakery shops they run in Bridge, Faversham and Herne Bay.

The move was revealed this week by the appearance of a series of advertisements in the nationwide commercial property and business selling magazine *Daltons Weekly*.

The four advertisements in the Business Sales section did not name the business, but clearly related to the Mogridge family-run small empire of popular baker's shops that have supplied a daily consignment of bread to hundreds of homes in east Kent for many years.

The freehold of Burgate's main outlet in High Street, Bridge, which includes three-bedroom accommodation and is said in the advertisement to be situated "in a lovely village", is up for sale at £650,000.

It has flourished as a bakery business for more than two decades, famous in recent years for croissants, a healthy sandwich trade at lunchtimes, and for the smell of freshly baked bread that wafts over the village shortly after dawn to the delight of residents

by Bill Day

going off to work. Just under £400,000 is wanted for Burgate's two bakeries in Faversham, at East Street and Whitstable Road, and the Herne Bay shop in Sea Street is selling for £22,500.

A "genuine retirement" reason is given for the decision to sell all four shops with the Mogridge partnership expecting to gross £1,072,000 from the deals.

The future of all four shops will be monitored closely by residents over the next few months as the changing face of high streets in the Canterbury district continues to cause alarm for the communities.

As one Bridge resident observed this week: "The village was once famous for its small family businesses, but these days we are more a dormitory for Canterbury.

"We used to have a greengrocery, newsagents, two butchers, drapers, thatched milking barn, chemists and a cycle shop that sold everything from bikes to bootlaces and tin-tacks.

"It's always somewhat alarming when a local shopkeeper decides to sell his business."

Neither Burgate's owner Tony Mogridge, nor his son, Gary, was available for comment. A spokesman at the Bridge shop said: "Mr Mogridge senior is away. Gary is on nights."

Teenager dies in fall from bridge

by GERRY WARREN

A POPULAR teenager has been found dead in the road beneath a dis-used railway bridge.

The body of Rory Haynes, 17, was discovered in Pett Bottom Road, Bridge, early on Tuesday morning.

He had apparently fallen 50ft to his death from the old Elham Valley railway line which crosses the road.

Rory, of Brewery Lane, Bridge, was a pupil at Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys which is also attended by his twin sister, Flora.

Yesterday (Wednesday) head-teacher, Matthew Baxter said the report of his death had devastated staff and pupils.

Sympathies

He said: "I broke the news to small groups at assemblies yesterday and prayers were said.

"Rory was an exceptional boy - popular and gifted and respected across the whole school.

"He excelled particularly as a young designer and had a great future in front of him.

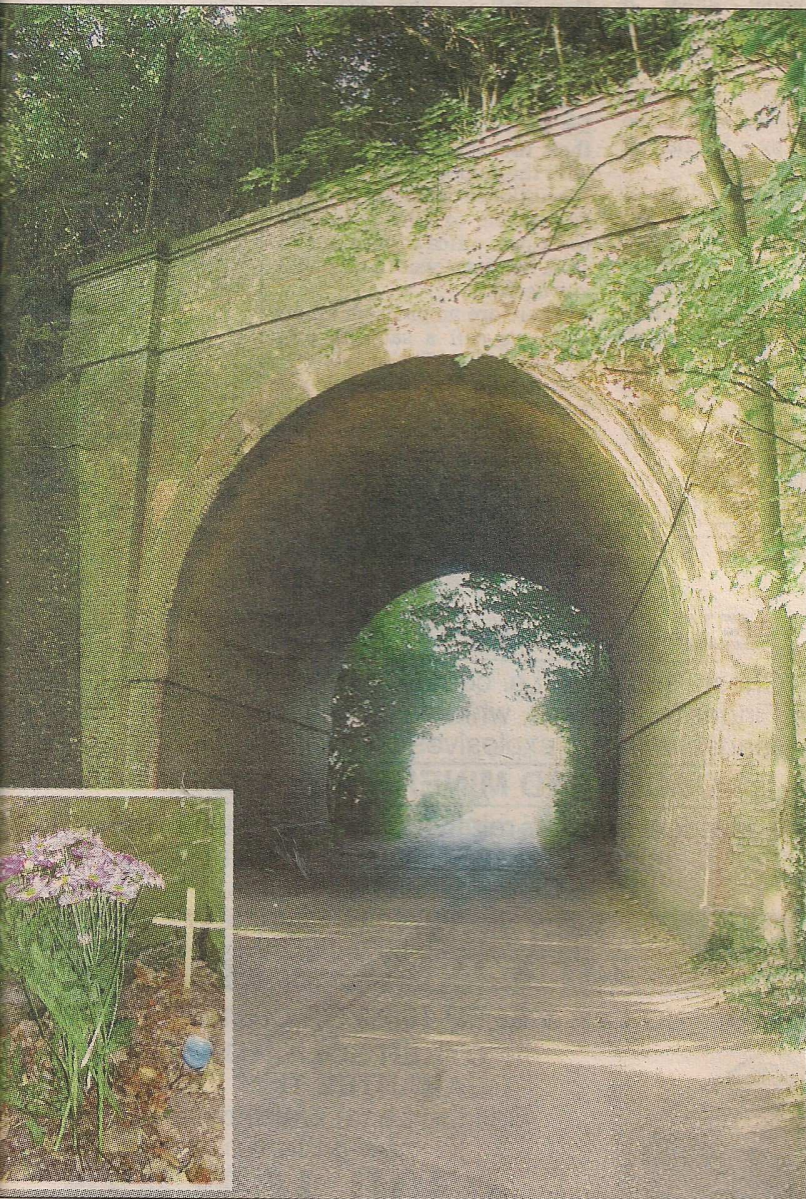
"Our sympathies and thoughts are now with his family over what appears to be a tragic accident."

Rory was found shortly before 6am and police closed the road for several hours to conduct an investigation.

Yesterday they said there were no suspicious circumstances and the death had been reported to the coroner who is expected to conduct an inquest.

Floral tributes and messages have now been laid at the scene by grief-stricken family and friends.

Head pays tribute to gifted pupil after tragedy



Scene of the tragedy in the Pett Bottom Road Bridge and, inset, a simple floral cross marks the spot

Ref. pd 479608/pd 479607

Sep 18 2003

A2 'rat-runs' blamed for congested village roads



HAZARDOUS: Alan Howland is fed up with the amount of traffic on the road past his home in Bridge
Ref: pd 472460

A MISHMASH of slip roads linking Canterbury and surrounding villages with the A2 is at the root of congested local rat-runs.

That is the response of Canterbury City Council to residents who have expressed concern about high levels of traffic along inappropriate roads in their area.

Alan Howland has lived in Bekesbourne Road, Bridge, for 28 years. He believes it is only a matter of time before the build-up of traffic causes a serious accident along his short stretch of road, which links routes from Thanet, Dover and Folkestone with the A2 towards Canterbury or London.

He said: "My road is the sign-posted route for county cricket and park and ride. It is also the established route for car transporters from Thanet.

"Articulated vehicles divert here onto the A2 and cars are free to go as fast as they like - in fact, because of the derestriction sign at Patixbourne, they tend to speed up as they approach.

"There are no pavements where I live, no street lights and no speed or weight restrictions. The road is only 14ft wide and there are 11 blind entrances in a 200yd stretch."

by DAN IRWIN



CLLR BILL OAKEY: 'Root cause' is problems with the A2

Mr Howland is not alone among his neighbours in voicing his concern to the local authorities. He has spoken at parish council meetings and visited the city council offices in Canterbury.

But according to Cllr Bill Oakey - who is responsible for the North Neighbourhood, which includes

Bridge and Bekesbourne - the root cause of the problem needs to be tackled, not just the symptoms.

"The residents in Bekesbourne Road have my utmost sympathy and absolute assurance that I will not let this matter drop," he said. "But the real issue here is the A2, which is like food going through a snake - it has to exit somewhere.

"I aim to do everything in my power to address this problem at its root, which means campaigning for a new roundabout on the A2 near Bridge which will weed out these rat-runs."

Commenting on the cause of the problem, a city council spokesman said: "The problem at Bridge can also be seen at Harbledown and Wincheap - the points at which the A2 is linked to the city.

"The A2 is a trunk road, which means it falls under the jurisdiction of the Government's Highways Agency.

"However, both Kent County Council and ourselves are taking this matter up with the agency. We are pressing them to fund full and proper junctions at all three of these points.

"At present the slip road system is too much of a mishmash and a

The best music variety

KM-fm 106

Bill's village loses out over wardens

TWO villages have enjoyed mixed fortunes in their bid to secure a rural warden to help fight crime.

Chartham is to benefit from one of 10 wardens allocated as part of Kent County Council's Rural Partnership with Kent Police.

But in Bridge, where 90-year-old Bill Rose was violently assaulted by a burglar in his home last week, the mood is one of frustration after its application was rejected.

Opinion is strong among villagers there who feel cut off or neglected by dealings with urban police.

Parish council chairman John Anderson said: "We are being kept in the dark like mushrooms."

He cited a series of burglaries and numerous acts of vandalism in the village and hopes that Bridge will be successful when the next wave of community wardens is appointed in September.

The rural wardens are free and are part of a significant movement from Kent Police and the county council to address

by Matt Hoople

Outcry over rural crime-fight snub

the worries of people concerned about anti-social behaviour and fearful of crime.

Bridge had previously been prepared to pay £10,000 for two full-time wardens under a similar scheme run by Canterbury City Council.

City councillor Bill Oakey is pushing for the warden but has been told there is 'insufficient crime' in the area.

He said: "I hope the horrendous robbery on Bill Rose will spur police to support Bridge in the next round of applications in August."

Population is one key criterion for qualification and Bridge has joined forces with Bekesbourne, Patricxbourne and Bishopsbourne in a bid to bolster its case.

KCC has committed to introducing 30 wardens this year, with a target of 100 active inside three years.

Chartham Parish Council member Jim Hornibrook is a firm believer in community-assisted crime prevention as the essential link between the criminals and police at ground level.

He said: "We are delighted at the news. We did have a rural constable who forged valuable links with some troublemakers in the village but we lost him last year."

Crime figures in Chartham show a worrying trend with 70 per cent of incidents up to November coming in the second half of the year.

"This is not a hot bed of crime by any means but there are one or two areas which account for the majority of the criminals," said Mr Hornibrook.

The first wardens have been widely praised by parish councils, businesses and local people since a successful pilot of 12 wardens in May, last year.

Canterbury Police is looking to introduce more special constables in the fight against crime.

Battling OAP still shaken

A PENSIONER who fought a burglar in his home is still hoping to find the justice he deserves.

Bill Rose, 90, an ex-Japanese PoW, tackled the man in his bedroom despite being threatened with a screwdriver.

Mr Rose said: "I have got over the emotional part now but still have aches and pains which make me feel like an old man, which I don't like very much."

Still shaken by the incident which happened on March 10, Mr Rose has decided to install a burglar alarm at his home in Bridge.

He still remained hopeful that his assailant, who is believed to have carried out three similar raids the same day, is caught.

He said: "My neighbours and family have been shocked by what happened but they have also been very supportive."

Anyone with information is asked to call police on 01227 762055 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Japanese children from the village of Hiraoka are reading Mr Rose's diaries as part of their school curriculum.

Two pupils had organised a trip to Simon Langton School on Monday to meet Mr Rose but due to the Iraq crisis the visit has been postponed.

Brave Bill, 90, tackles robber

by Julia
Walsh

A 90-YEAR-OLD former prisoner of war bravely fought off a robber at his home.

Bill Rose feared for his life as he battled with the screwdriver-wielding burglar on his bedroom floor.

Mr Rose, who survived three-and-a-half years in a Japanese prisoner of war camp, said: "Once he had got me on the floor I was intent on getting the screwdriver from him.

"I wasn't going to have that stuck in me.

"He was trying to reach my wallet in the back pocket and ripped my trousers in getting it."

Mr Rose has been left badly shaken with aching ribs, an injured elbow and stiff neck by the robbery.

He returned home at 8.45pm on Monday to be confronted by a man who said he was a security guard called to his house after a burglary.

But he sensed something was wrong and was about to call the police when the intruder knocked him to the ground.

Burgling spree

The robber escaped with Mr Rose's wallet, which contained nearly £500.

Police believe Mr Rose may be the fourth victim of one man who went on a burgling spree of homes of elderly people in Upstreet, Canterbury, Sturry and Bridge that evening.

A 70-year-old man was also attacked by a man with a screwdriver in his home in Twyne Close, Sturry.

He heard a noise at the back of his property at about 7.55pm. After the struggle neighbours saw the man run off to Cedar Road towards Hoades Wood Road. Money was missing from the house.

At 8.05pm an 85-year-old woman was confronted by a man in the sitting room of her New Ruttington Lane home in Canterbury.

She was duped into checking her property during which time the intruder snatched money, her pension and rent books and her purse.

And at 7.30pm, residents of a house in Stour Valley Close heard strange noises and later discovered jewellery and money had been taken.

The burglar is believed to be white, aged between 20 and 25 and about 5ft 8in-5ft 10in. He was wearing dark clothing.

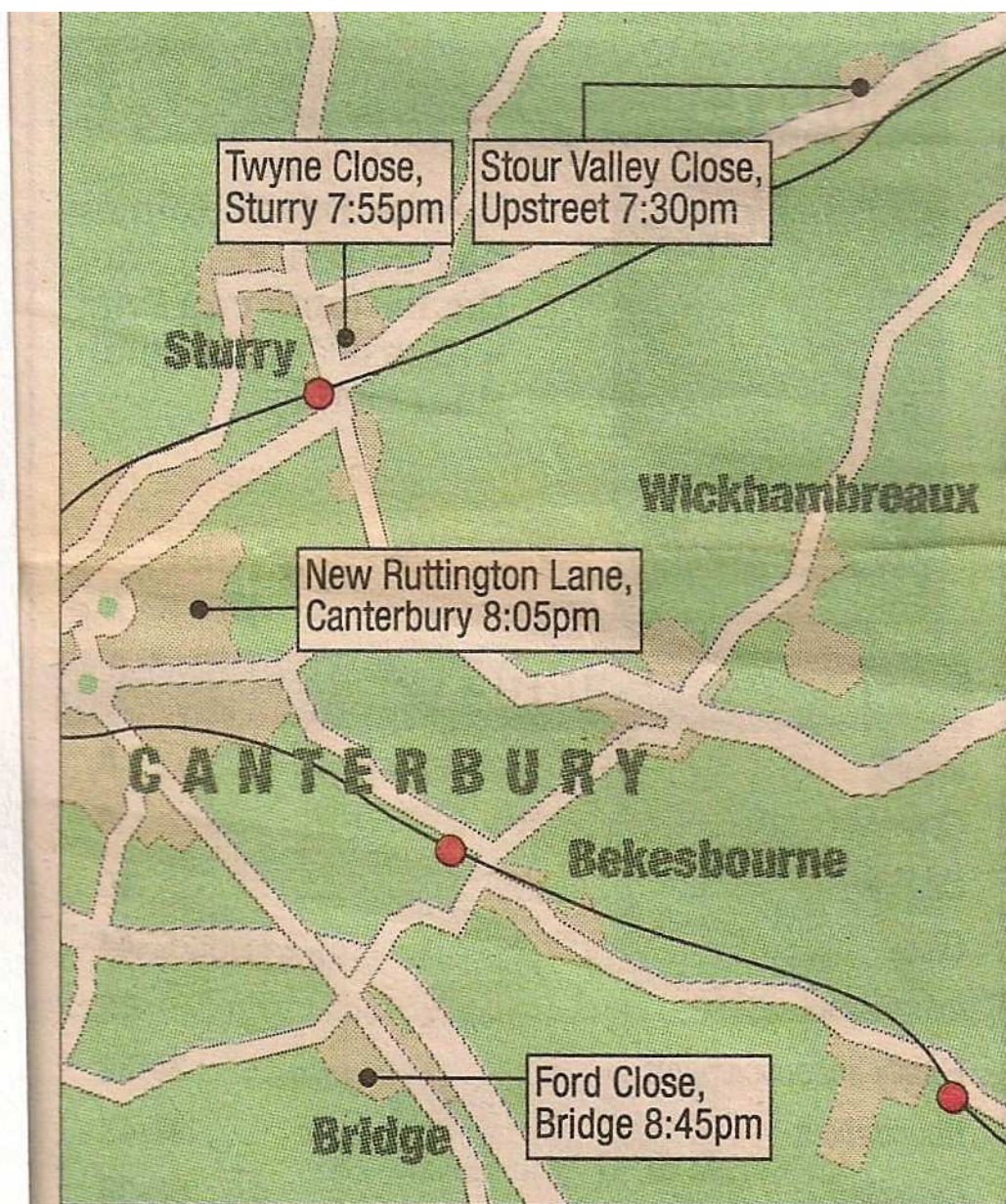
Det Insp Martin Lyddon urged anyone with any



PLUCKY VICTIM: Bill Rose, who tackled a burglar at his home in Bridge

Ref: pd 376344

March 13th 2003



Based on Ordnance Survey mapping © Crown copyright: All rights reserved: AM83/02

information to contact the police.

He said: "Each of these incidents had the potential to be far worse. The targets were elderly or retired people and the burglar has shown that he is not afraid to use force."

Anyone with any information should contact Det Insp Lyddon on 01227 762055 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Ex-POW confronts intruder

POW WELCOMES JAPANESE VISITORS

HE SPENT three-and-a-half years in prisoner of war camps in Japan and weighed just eight-and-a-half stone when he left.

But this week Bridge pensioner Bill Rose, 91, welcomed two teenagers from a village built on the site of one of the camps into his home.

It's a story that began with a secret diary written by Mr Rose about 60 years ago.

Julia Walsh reports.



NIGHTMARE: William Rose as a PoW. The picture is dated July 19, 1943

Airman's journey into freezing hell at wartime camp

IT WAS 1942 when Sgt Bill Rose, serving with the RAF Volunteer Reserve, was taken prisoner by the Japanese.

He had been in Singapore and was on his way to the port of Tjalajap in Java, when it was announced the resistance had ended.

It signalled the beginning of a nightmare for Mr Rose, who was taken back to Singapore with his fellow servicemen.

A horrific 33-day journey brought them to the Mitsushima PoW camp in Japan. It was winter, the terrain was mountainous: it was hell.

Scribbling in a secret diary, Mr Rose wrote:

"At a temperature of 30 degrees Fahrenheit or below, it was very cold, to make life more miserable, my mouth was very sore and ulcerated.

"The diarrhoea had stopped. Instead I was suffering from flatulence.

"The stew we were given didn't help and it was a relief when I managed to eat a piece of toast but my mouth was so sore it took a lot of effort to swallow it.

"We were made to run to the quarry and back again. This was particularly hard for men like myself with bad feet.

"I suppose that it did make us feel a

bit warmer, not that we noticed at that time. We were keen to dodge the butts of the rifles that the guards used to hit the laggards."

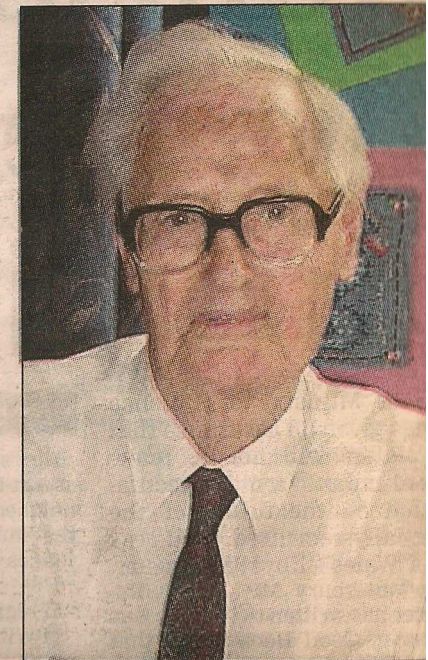
Unbeknown to Mr Rose, in years to come his words were to be published in a book and read by hundreds of Japanese schoolchildren learning about their country's actions in the war.

They would be included in the history of the village of Tenryumura, which would be built on the site of PoW camp and make him a pioneer in reconciliation between the British and Japanese.

After Mitsushima, Mr Rose was moved to a second camp further north at Kanose to work on the carbide furnaces, where, when the conflict ended, he was liberated by the Americans.

The original copies of Mr Rose's diaries are now in the Imperial War Museum but a condensed version has been published under the title *You Shook My Hand*.

'... We were made to run to the quarry and back again. This was particularly hard for men like myself with bad feet. I suppose that it did make us feel a bit warmer, not that we noticed at that time. We were keen to dodge the butts of the rifles that the guards used to hit the laggards...'



BILL ROSE: Ordeal in wartime Japan

Japanese wife who prompted odyssey

RETURNING from the war Mr Rose and his wife were finally able to begin their family life and had three sons – Malcolm, Graham and Jonathan.

The horror and ordeals of the prisoner of war camps remained consigned to the secret diaries until his son Graham brought home a friend, a young Japanese woman called Takako.

She knew Mr Rose had been in Japan but not the time or circumstances so politely inquired: “Did you enjoy your time in Japan?”

“Not exactly,” came the reply, followed by the explanation. Intrigued, on a visit home in the late 1980s Takako decided to see if she could find out anything more about the camps Mr Rose had been in.

Inquiries about Kanose proved fruitless. She was told it was the past and found no one would help her further.

There were difficulties too

with Mitsushima. It just didn’t seem to exist. Undeterred she carried on searching until a book in the public library put her on the right track.

“I remembered that Bill had worked on dam construction, so went back to the library and found it by chance,” she said. “I was so delighted and couldn’t believe it.”

Then in 1997, Graham and Takako, who had married by then, visited the village of Tenryumura, that had been built on the site.

They took a video, which eventually they persuaded Bill to watch, and that became the catalyst for his return to the village with the help of AGAPE, a group which works on reconciliation between PoWs and Japan.

Graham Rose said: “Really Takako instigated all this with trying to find out about the camps.”



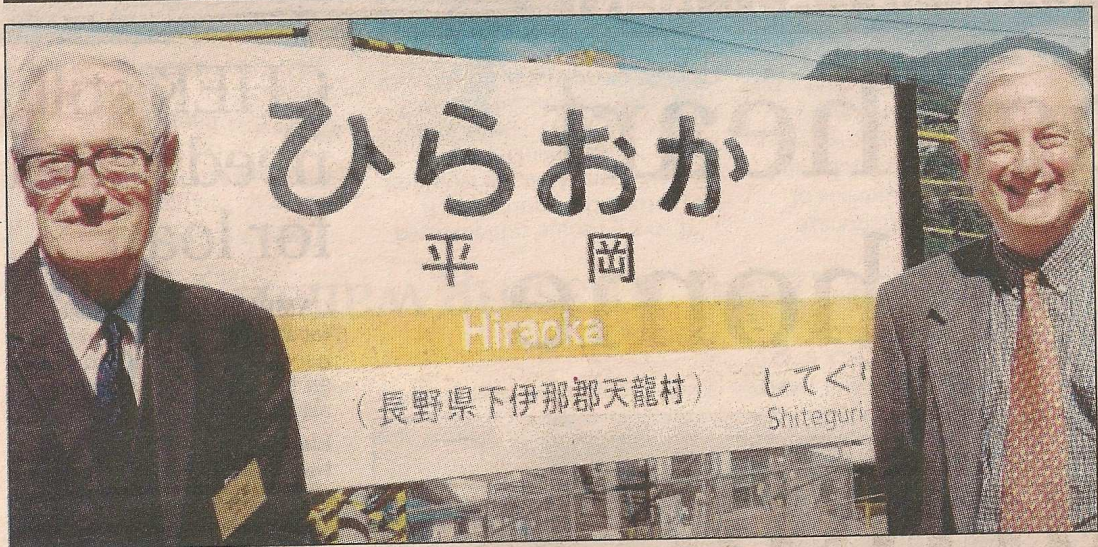
FAMILY TIES: Bill Rose and his daughter-in-law Takako

Ref: pd 462388



CM
K

'TIME TO FORGIVE AND GO FORWARD'



POIGNANT JOURNEY: Bill Rose and son Malcolm arrive at Hiraoka station, close to the former Mitsushima PoW camp in Japan

'... Those who look away from the past tend not to look straight at the present. This is all the more reason why we need to soberly confront our pasts – those paths taken by the states of Japan and the United Kingdom – and examine not only the brilliance but the moments of darkness as well...'

– Tanaka Yasuo, governor of Nagano Prefecture

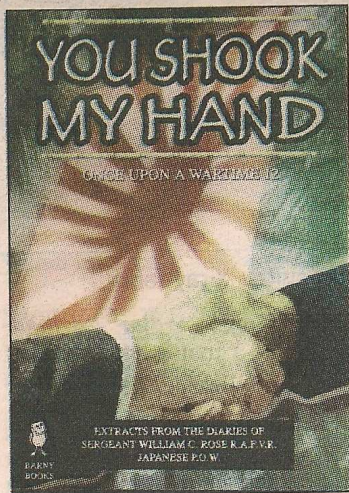
Prison diaries inspired girls to fly to Britain

TODAY Mr Rose's secret diaries are used to teach Japanese children about the country's actions during the war.

In the village of Tenryumura there isn't a child or adult who doesn't know about the camp's existence and most have read the book *You Shook My Hand*.

On Mr Rose's visit to the village he presented them with a copy of his original diaries, which have also been translated into Japanese.

Following Mr Rose's visit a park and memorial, financed by the people in the village, and bearing all the names of



services every five years at the site and has said the village would be pleased to receive visitors from Canterbury on such occasions.

The governor Tanaka Yasuo wrote: "Those who look away from the past tend not to look straight at the present.

"This is all the more reason why we need to soberly confront our pasts – those paths taken by the states of Japan and the United Kingdom – and examine not only the brilliance but the moments of darkness as well."

They also brought with them a book of handwritten and

CANTERBURY MEMORIES

Caesar coin discovery



WHEN Bruce Pascoe's metal detector turned up what appeared to be two pieces of lead in a Pett Bottom orchard in February, 1977, he thought they had been thrown away as scrap sometime in the past.

But when cleaning revealed they were some kind of coins, he researched their origins and found they dated back to the time of Julius Caesar's landing in Britain.

The discovery led to Mr Pascoe obtaining a book from the library to find out exactly what they were.

Later they were sent to London and Oxford to be photographed and catalogued and casts made so they could be examined by experts.

The coins themselves were given to Canterbury's Royal Museum where they were put on display. They had probably been minted from tin rich bronze in Gaul and were

There were only eight others in the country and this was the first time two had been found in the same place.