

EASTLEIGH & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



Random Air Raids on Eastleigh



Paper 70

Air-raids on Eastleigh

Having produced booklets about the Factory bombings and the Area Bombing, it seemed sensible to conclude the series with information about the air raids which appear to be random, perhaps pilots jettisoning their load on the way back to base, who knows?

Shrapnel and Sounds of War.

11th May, 1940.

Capt. E. Jervis, M.C., (Retd.),
County Air Raid Precautions Officer,
Litton Lodge,
Clifton Road,
WINCHESTER.

Dear Sir,

I have to report that at 1-55 a.m. several bursts of anti-aircraft fire were heard in the region of Southampton, and a considerable quantity of shrapnel fell in the northern part of Eastleigh. I have had no reports of any damage. Planes could be heard.

Yours faithfully,



Borough Engineer & Surveyor.

Early problems.

[92/261]

15th May, 1940.

Capt. S.W. Rolfe,
 Chief Warden,
 The Rec House,
 Romsey Road,
 EASTLEIGH.

Dear Captain Rolfe,

When the bursts of anti-aircraft gunfire were heard on Saturday morning last, a number of Wardens reported for duty at their posts and rang through to the Control room to ask what was happening. At times the whole of the incoming lines to switch-board in the Town Hall were engaged, and had the Central Control tried to make contact with us, there would have been some considerable delay in taking the message.

I appreciate the enthusiasm of the Wardens in turning out without the prescribed warning, but will you please inform them that in the event of a similar occurrence they must not ring through to the Control room to make enquiries, but wait for Control to contact them. If it is necessary to get in touch with a certain post and the telephone is out of order, I will send a message by a motor-cyclist.

I know you will see the necessity for this.

Yours sincerely,



22 August 1940 : Police report 8 H.E. bombs fell on airport.

1st September 1940. The first raid over a populated area.

The Incident Report is unhelpful but did name roads.

INCIDENT NO.	TIME OF ORIGIN	DISTRICT	LOCALITY	PRECISE OF MESSAGE	WASRS		
					FIRE	H.E.	IN GAS
9	23 37	Eastleigh		<p>2 H.E. Bombs in Centre of Eastleigh. Casualties & damage as reported not lines of approach very small</p> <p>(Amplification of previous message)</p> <p>Now reported that 2 bombs fell. 3 houses badly damaged, others slightly damaged. Many & wayward causes of injured. Temporary Nebowing satisfactory. Detailed report of damage to property to follow</p>			2
ditto	01 40	ditto	<p>High street Dist. Rd. & Church Lane</p>	<p>Casualties</p>			3
16	21 58						

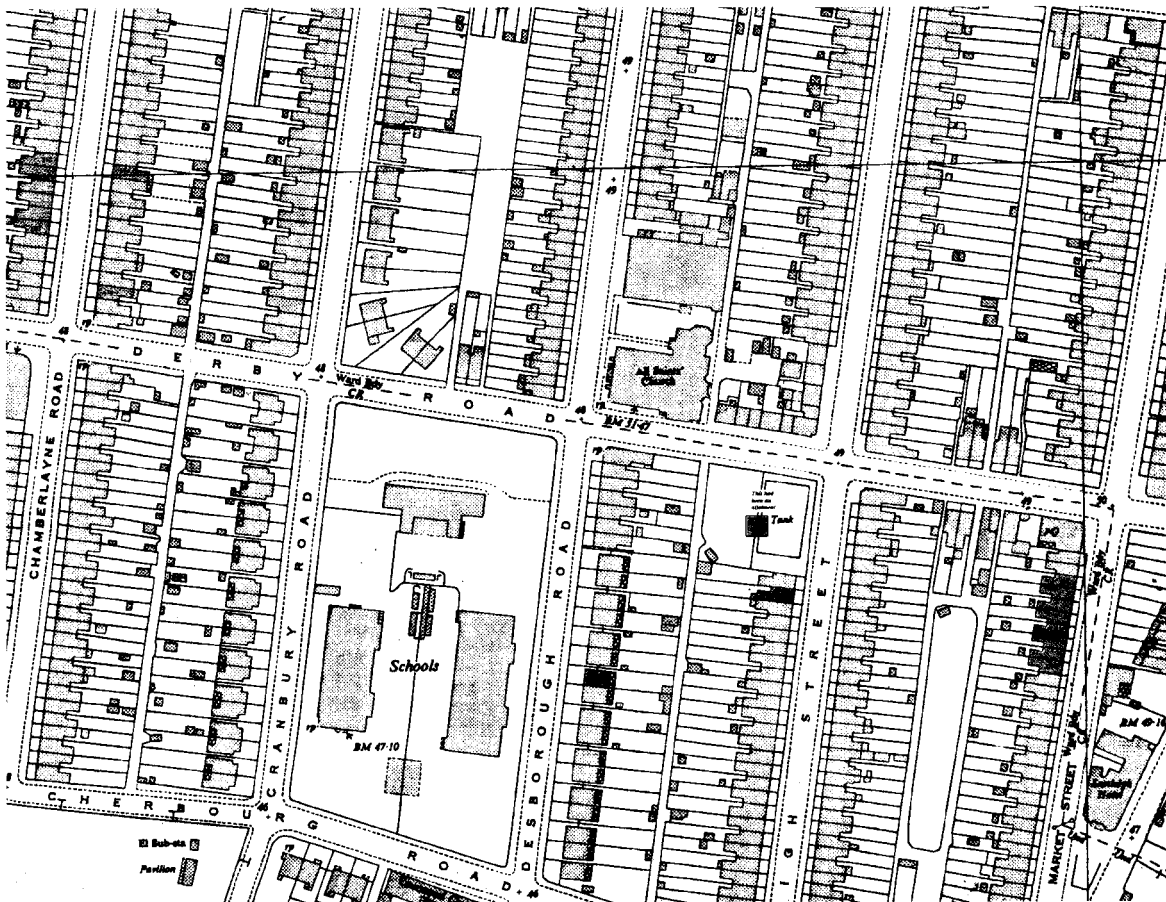
The Mayor who was injured.

Newspaper Reports were less secretive than they were to become, but guesswork and further investigation was needed to ascertain exactly what had happened. The article in the Southern Daily Echo gives names and along with the Rate Book data sufficed to locate the damage fairly accurately. The Mayor, Sidney West was injured but the Mayoress later died in Winchester hospital.



S. F. WEST

MAP SHOWING THE BOMB DAMAGE



Three houses marked in magenta were destroyed.

Newspaper Report of the raid of 1st September 1940.

TWO FATALITIES

Mayor and Mayoress

Taken to Hospital.

CHAINS OF OFFICE FOUND

IN DEBRIS

Elderly Neighbours Killed

THE Mayor and Mayoress of a south-east town had a remarkable escape from instantaneous death when a bomb registered a direct hit on their house last night and completely demolished it.

Both were seriously injured and taken to hospital.

Their neighbours, Mr. and Mrs. C. Gray, lost their lives.

Two other bombs fell on the town, causing slight injury to a few people and damaging property.

Chief damage was to windows, many hundreds of panes of glass being shattered.

No sirens were sounded before the bombs fell.

The Mayor and Mayoress and Mr. and Mrs. Gray were in bed at the time of the attack.

The son of the Mayor, a deputy head warden of the western area of the town, was one of the first on the scene, although he had no knowledge that his parents' house had been hit when he heard the commotion.

"I was going down on patrol when I heard the whistle and explosion," he said. "I had no idea that my home had been struck until I came round the corner and saw the ruins.

"Mother and father were in bed when the bomb struck the house, and were thrown from the bedroom floor into the living room beneath. Masonry fell on them, and a large amount had to be removed before we could extricate them.

MAYORESS UNCONSCIOUS

"Mother was unconscious; father was conscious, but was seriously hurt and did not say anything."

The Mayoress received two fractures, contusions and cuts, and the Mayor several contusions and cuts. They were removed by ambulance to hospital.

It was reported this morning that the Mayor was fairly comfortable and that the Mayoress was 'much the same as last night' and was going to be X-rayed.

CHAINS OF OFFICE

A.R.P. demolition squads worked throughout the night and that morning to recover property and discovered among the ruins of a cabinet the chains of office of the Mayor and Mayoress.

Only part of Mr. and Mrs. Gray's house was demolished. When Mrs. Gray was found in the debris by A.R.P. personnel she was dead.

Mr. Gray was taken from the ruins and removed to hospital, but was found to be dead at the end of the journey.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray were an elderly couple well-known in the town.

The Mayor and Mayoress' other neighbours, Mr. and Mrs. F. Judson, had their house considerably damaged. Mrs. Judson suffered from shock.

Other neighbours, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Smith were also in bed.

"The explosion was not very loud," Mr. Smith said. "We were blinded and almost choked by dust when the windows were blown in and the ceiling collapsed. It was a miracle that no one in the house was injured."

These houses adjoin each other in a block, and it was fortunate that no fire was caused.

Report of the First Air-raid on Eastleigh in the Southern Daily Echo. 2nd September 1940.

Three bombs fell. One on the west side of Chamberlayne Road, north of Derby Road; one on allotments near the corner of High Street and Derby Road and another in gardens of houses on the west side Market Street, south of Derby Road.

ANOTHER BOMB

Five other houses were made unfit for further occupation by a second bomb which fell at the back of Mr. and Mrs. B Carter's house.

The force of the explosion was terrific.

Although the masonry did not fail to any great extent, it was badly damaged.

The blast ruined furniture and fittings in the sculleries and back bedrooms. Cuts from splintered glass were the only personal injuries.

The bomb, which fell not more than 10 yards from the house caused fire to spread over the adjoining garden, and a shed containing Mr. G. Blake's motor cycle, five bicycles, a pram and a trunk full of clothes was destroyed.

BEST CLOTHES

"They were our best clothes, and I put them there because thought they would be safer in the shed than in the house," Mr. Blake said.

"Afraid I was mistaken," he added.

Other families rendered homeless were Mr. and Mrs. T. Rowan, Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Mr and Mrs. Morris.

The third bomb dropped among allotments. The only damage done by the blast was the smashing of windows, including some at a church.

SON VISITS HOSPITAL

When the Mayor's son visited the hospital this afternoon he was informed that his father and mother were fairly comfortable. On a doctor's advice he did not see his mother who has a fractured leg and stomach injuries. The Mayor had recovered consciousness, and his son was able to talk to him for a few moments. In conversation his first query was concerning the welfare of his wife, and he went on to tell his son that he had no recollection of what had happened. It was news to him that that his house had been demolished.

Fatalities

1 st September 1940	219, Chamberlayne Road	Ada Dorcas West,	wife of Sidney F. West. She died in Winchester hospital and was buried 14 th September 1940.
	221, Chamberlayne Road	Charles Frederick Gray	husband of Ellen Louisa Gray, aged 63.
	221, Chamberlayne Road	Ellen Louisa Gray	wife of Charles Frederick Gray, aged 69.

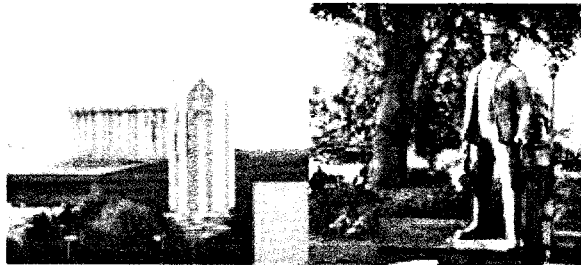
The most seriously damaged Houses.

1 st September 1940 Address	Head of Household	Date re-occupied
213 Chamberlayne Road	Albert J. Hall	Received a rate rebate
215 Chamberlayne Road	Charles F. Smith	24 th November 1947
217 Chamberlayne Road	William Judson	destroyed
219 Chamberlayne Road	Sidney F. West	destroyed
221 Chamberlayne Road	Charles F. Gray	destroyed
223 Chamberlayne Road	Walter J. Foster	22 nd November 1943
154 Chamberlayne Road	J. C. Backshell	Cost of repairs £28/14/6d
172 Chamberlayne Road	Henry J. Langford	Cost of repairs £34/17/6d
247 High Street	Thomas J. Eames	Cost of repairs £59/15/-
242 Desborough Road	Robert E. Turner	Cost of repairs £28/15/-
259 Market Street	Charles H. Beecham	22 nd March 1941
261 Market Street	William J. Cooke	18 th March 1941
263 Market Street	John H. Ansell	12 th February 1941
265 Market Street	Edward J. Gear	18 th April 1941
267 Market Street	George Blake	2 nd December 1940
269 Market Street	Thomas Rowen	24 th January 1941
271 Market Street	Arthur S. Carter	1 st February 1941
273 Market Street	Henry A. C. Smith	9 th January 1941

Raid on Cunliffe Owens 11th September 1940
and raids around the airport at other times.

See Paper 66

**EASTLEIGH & DISTRICT
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**



The Bombing of the Airport

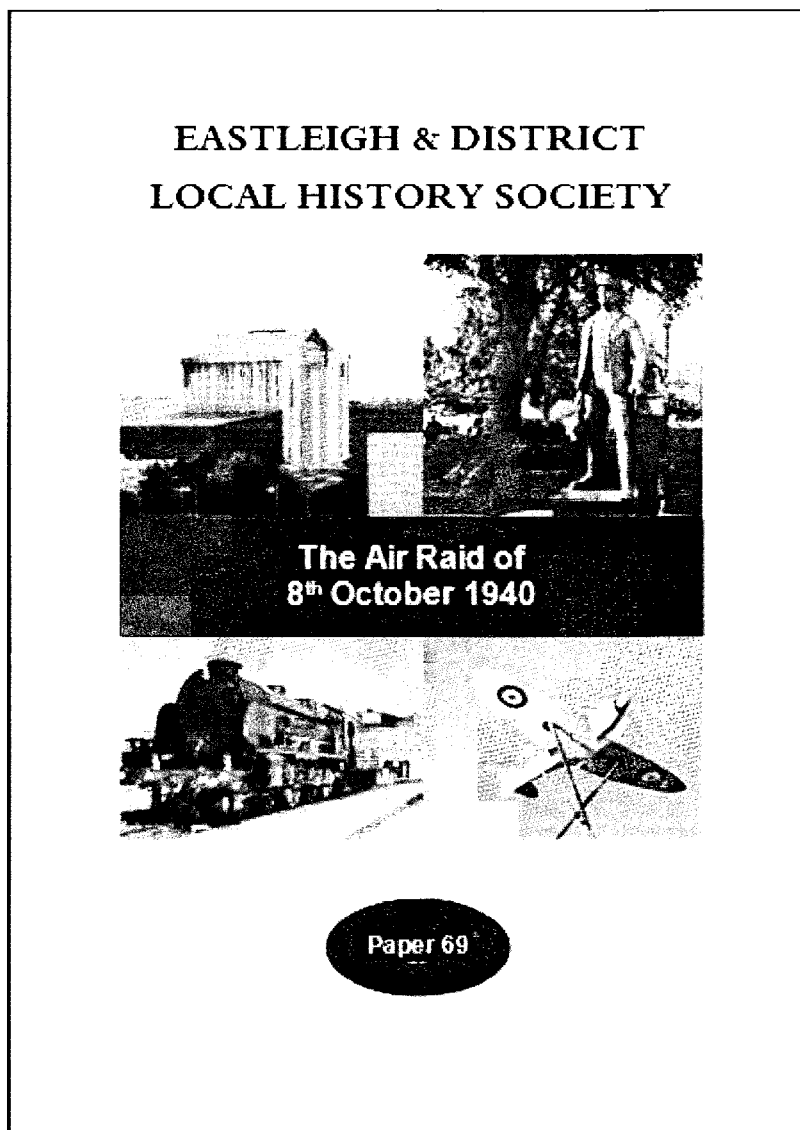


Paper 66

Area Raid 8th October 1940

Includes machine gunning, Carriage Works fatalities and Co-op bombing and other incidents around the Borough.

See paper 69



4th November 1940:UXB at Sulender, Brownhill Road.

17th November 1940 UXB in Meadow behind C/F Working Men's Club.

18th November 1940 UXB near Stoke Park Farm – UX Parachute mine near Upper Barn Farm (exploded on 1300 hours on 19th) Farmhouse windows broken. 2 UXB in Kiln Lane.

19th November 2 HE in open field near Fair oak.

19th November 1940 parachute mine suspected to be magnetic found near Twyford Road (in Bazeleys Nursery). Nearby population briefly evacuated to North End School. The bomb was later said to be a flare.

[94/485]

22nd November, 1940.

E.A.W. Turbett, Esq.,
Mechanical Engineer,
Messrs. Southern Railway,
Mechanical Engineer's Office,
EASTLEIGH.

Dear Mr. Turbett,

With reference to our conversation yesterday, the suspected land mine dropped in the allotment gardens of Bazeley's Nurseries was, after inspection by a Sub-Lieut. of the Admiralty Bomb Disposal Squad, found to be a special type of flare. I do not know when it was dropped.

The incident was reported to me by a leader of one of the borough ARP Rescue Parties at 16-30 hours on Tuesday the 19th November, 1940, who stated that a "bomb" or "mine" painted silver with an unopened parachute attached had been found in Bazeley's Nurseries allotment gardens. I reported this to the police superintendent, who immediately sent a sergeant to investigate. His report confirmed the previous one, with the addition that the "bomb" or "mine" had a dial on the top, was about 2 feet in diameter, and buried in the ground.

The matter was reported to the County Control as a suspected "magnetic mine", and they were asked to contact the bomb disposal people immediately as the "mine" was within 80 yards of the main London-Bournemouth railway line, and also in a thickly populated part of the area.

The police superintendent fortunately knew where to contact a Sub-Lieut. of the Bomb Disposal Squad who had been called into the town and fired a land mine in the area a few hours before.

The fact of the "flare" being painted silver and being so large, it was, quite justifiably in my opinion, reported as a suspected "mine". The police, I understand, reported in the same way to the railway company.

Sub-Lieut. Turner of the Bomb Disposal Squad visited the site and he himself was unable to identify the "flare". He consulted the Admiralty, and after a second visit to the site with another expert (Captain Russell), at approximately 23-00 hours, it was stated to be a special type of "flare" not generally known. The "flare" was removed by the Bomb Disposal Squad about midnight and was found to be 3'6" long, 2'0" diameter, fitted with a silk parachute in a container which had not opened.

Immediately after the incident had been reported, steps were taken, in consultation with the police, to evacuate the houses within the prescribed radius.

Yours faithfully,

22nd November 1940 : Large HE and Oil bomb at Colden Common. No damage

23rd November 1940 : 2HE and 1 UXB at HMS Raven, 1 HE in Doncaster Drove, 9 other HE bombs on Airport – no damage.

23rd November 1940: 20 bombs in Borough of Eastleigh, 10 UXB. Seem to have been on Sewage Farm on marshy ground, believed to have sunk to a great depth in water.

23rd November 1940: at 20.00 hours. Bomb exploded just north of Shaftesbury Avenue and one in Hursley Road.

23rd November 1940 – Bomb north of Shaftesbury Avenue

0156/24	Bartling	Chandisford	TIME OF INCIDENT - 20.00/23. 1 bomb exploded in Shaftesbury Avenue, Chandisford, 1 in Hursley Road, Chandisford. No casualties. Detailed report	2
3 26				

No damage was noted in Hursley Road, but three houses in Shaftesbury Avenue sustained serious damage.

There was no newspaper report.

Date of Raid	Address	Head of Household	Date re-occupied
23 rd November 1940	37 Shaftesbury Avenue	Mrs A. Medley	8 th August 1941
	39 Shaftesbury Avenue	Walter J. G. Bignell	14 th May 1941
	41 Shaftesbury Avenue	Charles P. Lake	11 th May 1941

24th November 1941: 3 bombs at Junction of Spring Lane and Church Road Bishopstoke. Slight damage to water and gas mains. They turned out to be flares. Number of UXB on airport. [Pumps and Ambulance sent to Southampton.]

29th November 1941: UXB in garden at Fair oak.

1st/2nd December 1941: UXB in Field opposite Cricketers Arms, North Stomeham. Four HE bombs in open country – no damage.

This letter shows that the blitz on Southampton had started by December 1940. It continued with 57 raids up to July 1941.

Bombing of Southampton disrupted Telephones in Eastleigh.

[95/115]

12th December, 1940.

Dr. R. W. A. Simmons,
93, Leigh Road,
EASTLEIGH.

Dear Doctor,

Your letter of the 10th instant, addressed to the Town Clerk, has been handed to me for attention.

Since the unfortunate air raid on Southampton last week, the whole of the telephone system of this area has been more or less out of commission, and it was only during the last two or three days that the Post Office authorities have been able to connect one of the three incoming lines to the Town Hall. The number is 87212 (or 3).

Yours faithfully,



Borough Engineer & Surveyor.

North Stoneham Church.

This letter shows that the Church was damaged but the reply giving details would have been more interesting.

[95/124]

13th December, 1940.

The Rector of North Stoneham Church,
The Rectory,
The Avenue,
BASSETT, Southampton.

Dear Sir,

North Stoneham Church.

Following the damage at the above through enemy action, I will appreciate the following particulars to facilitate registration of this damage.

Details required.

1. Extent and nature of damage.
2. Date of incident.
3. Owners of property.

I shall greatly appreciate your kind co-operation and, at the same time, assume that you know the procedure for claims under the Government's Compensation Scheme. A form of claim for compensation can be obtained here if required.

Yours faithfully,



Borough Engineer & Surveyor

Instance of Gallantry during the Southampton Blitz.

Kenneth Manley. Grocer & Sub-postmaster, General Stores and Post Office at 53 Twyford Rd.

RECOMMENDATION IN RESPECT OF INSTANCES OF GALLANTRY.

Kenneth Manley, who was then 25, had served as Stretcher Bearer for Eastleigh Casualty Services for nine months.

During the early hours of the morning of the 1st December, 1940, a First Aid Party, a member of which was Mr Kenneth Manley, was called to an incident in Graham Road, Southampton. When the party arrived at the incident they found an Anderson shelter had been hit which contained 7 injured persons and much debris. The task of extricating the injured was rendered difficult by the nature of the injuries to the casualties, the amount of debris present and the close confines of the shelter.

Mr Manley volunteered to carry out this task. He entered the shelter, and after rendering first aid to the casualties inside he handed them out to the rest of his party. On one occasion when rescuing a woman with an injured spine he laid on his back in the entrance to the shelter, drew the woman casualty on top of his body, and the rest of the Party pulled him, and the woman, out by his shoulders.

STATEMENT BY AN INDEPENDENT WITNESS.

Stretcher Bearer Batchelor reported to me that he had discovered people injured in an Anderson shelter & that a First Aid Party was needed. I instructed the whole Party to proceed to the spot. Having made an examination of the situation, Stretcher Bearer Manley entered the shelter & proceeded with the very difficult task of extricating the injured. The first to be handed out was a boy of approximately 9 years of age, having the lower portion of his face completely blown away. I treated this and sent the patient to hospital. The next patient to be removed was a woman with back injuries suffering from extreme shock. S.B. Manley with great presence of mind lay with his back in the entrance to the shelter, laid the woman on himself as the squad pulled him from the shelter by his shoulders.

F.W.Taysome,
First Aid Party Leader.

In allowing himself to be used as a human stretcher & to be dragged across the sharp edge of an Anderson Shelter, Mr Manley's first thoughts were for his injured charge. This is not the only time that Mr Manley's conduct has been brought to my notice. He was acting Leader of the Party which helped to rescue and attend three men who were buried under debris when the Southern Railway Works in this district was hit on the 8th October 1940. He was also a member of a Party which took part in rescue work in Southampton when that Town was raided on the 23rd November, 1940, while on the 9th January this year he was acting Leader of the First Aid Party which rendered First Aid to the three people injured in an air raid in Eastleigh.

C. E. James.
Director of Casualty Services.

Another instance of Gallantry.

Miss Olivia Dorothy Rochfort Wade of Merrieleas, 22, Park Road, Chandler's Ford.

Olivia Wade, then aged 44 had been a Sitting Case Driver for Eastleigh Casualty Services for a year and five months.

RECOMMENDATION IN RESPECT OF INSTANCES OF GALLANTRY.

At about 22.00 hours on the night of the 30th November, 1940, When the air raid on Southampton was at its height, a train bound for Southampton stopped at Eastleigh. Among the passengers were 14 seamen bound for Southampton, who were brought to the Town Hall, Eastleigh, fed and found accommodation for the night.

Miss Wade who was on duty with her car volunteered to take The seamen to their billets in the town. Two of the seamen were very anxious about their families in Southampton and Miss Wade volunteered to drive them to their homes and asked permission to do so. It was pointed out to Miss Wade that this was a very risky venture but she said she did not mind the risk and eventually took the seamen, one to Regents Park, the other to St. Denys, Southampton

Great credit is due to Miss Wade for allowing her sympathy For the worried seamen to persuade her to undertake such a dangerous journey. This is the third time that Miss Wade has taken part in air raid precautions in this Borough. On the 11th September, 1940 she used her car to evacuate a case from the First Aid Post, Eastleigh, to Southampton Eye Hospital and on The 8th October, 1940 she transported various casualties from the First Aid Post to their homes.

C. E. James,
Director of Casualty Services.

The Cottage was Taken over by the War Department on 16th October 1940.



Gallantry: Mr. A. E. Day, of Chalvington Road (and Mrs Day)

BLITZ SERVICE

During the 1939-45 war both Mr. and Mrs Day were members of the Air Raid Precautions organisation. Mr. Day was in charge of the A.R.P. post at the St. Boniface Hall for some time.

He was on duty in Southampton during the air raids in December, 1940, and undertook much gallant work.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Day were members of the local British Red Cross Society. They served for many years—Mr. Day as a Divisional officer in charge of transport and medical supplies and Mrs. Day as Assistant Commandant of the Chandler's Ford Detachment (Hants 140).

Mrs. Day was also a founder organiser of the Eastleigh Red Cross Sunshine Club.

They were always willing to help in any way possible, and the Eastleigh members of the Red Cross will always remember with gratitude the various ways in which they helped form the local division.

The Air raid of 9th January 1941.

Bombs fell in Nutbeem Road, Chamberlayne Road and Cranbury Road. Nothing is known of the one in Nutbeem Road, but there was a crater by a dead tree in a field just east of Pirellis. It was eventually estimated that ten high explosive bombs fell in the Borough that night.

		TIME OF INCIDENT:—	
4	23.11. Eastleigh 0355/11	Chamberlayne Road 23.11. Bomb dropped to follow Admitted to Winchester Hospital:— Mrs Bamforth 54 Chamberlayne Road Mrs Gungah " " " Mrs Johnson 55 " " " Dropped at F.A. Post. Mrs Bullard 54 Chamberlayne Road 115 houses badly damaged in incident. 11.5 to 12.00 hours damaged. 8 further reports after daylight inspection.	3
5	23.11. Eastleigh 0355/11 115/11	Chamberlayne Road 23.11. Bomb dropped to follow Dropped at F.A. Post Mrs Snooker 54 Cranbury Road Further investigation indicated that 11.5 to 12.00 hours * A.P. Committee 1 woman (Mrs Johnson of 55 Chamberlayne Road) residing House No. 41. 51 Cranbury Road * Mrs Alice Hiscock, age 70. - fatal casualty, body recovered from debris	2 3
6	23.11. Eastleigh 0355/11	Nutbeem Road 23.11. Bomb dropped details to follow	2

The incident report is unusual in that it mentions names (but gives the wrong address for Miss Bamforth and Mrs. Burge.) The bombs fell at about 23.05 on the 9th January 1941. Number 49 seems to have escaped damage but numbers 45, 47, 51 and 59 were slightly damaged. Numbers 53, 55 and 57 received varying degrees of destruction. 57 was repaired but the other two were not dealt with until some time after the war ended,

Mr. Herbert Martin of 75 Chamberlayne Road was one of those who dug the victims from the rubble.

Miss F. M. N. Bamforth headmistress of Cranbury Road Girls Schools, Mrs. B. Burge, (possibly her sister), and Mr Johnson were admitted to Winchester hospital.

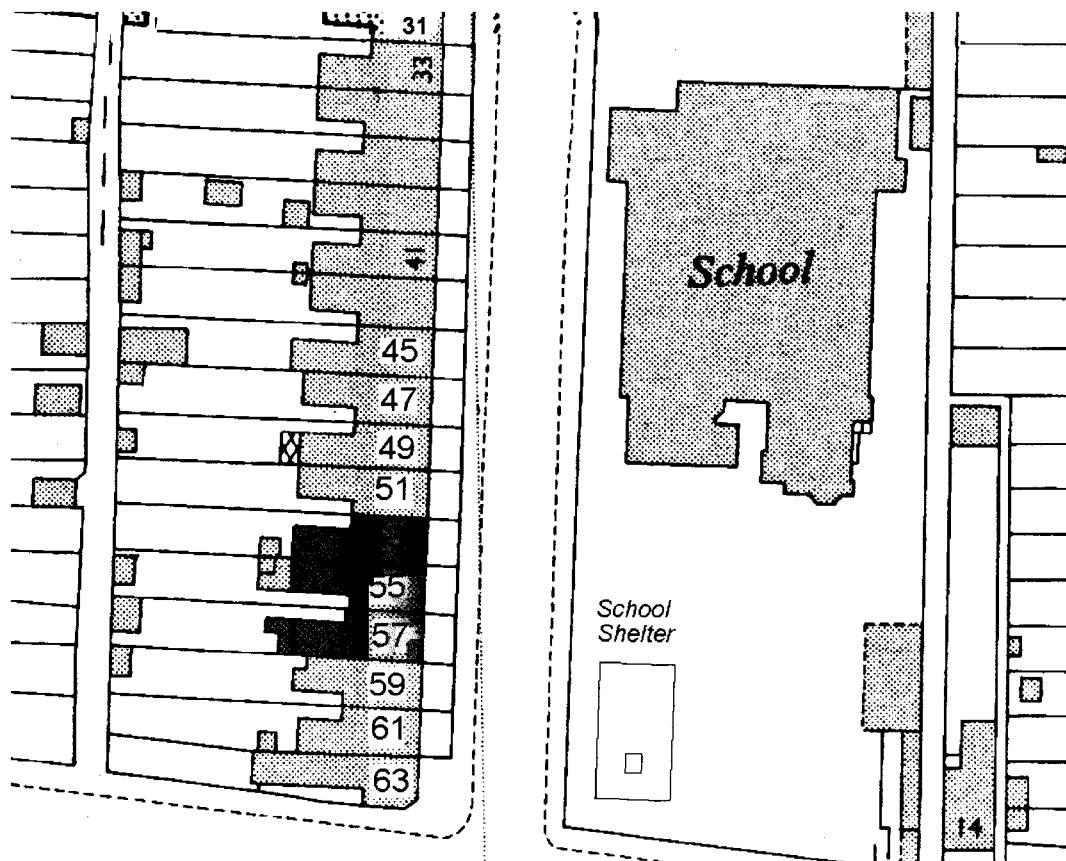
Mrs Bullard was treated at a First Aid Post.

At 16.30 on the 10th January it was realised that Mrs Alice Hiscock, the housekeeper of 55 Chamberlayne Road was missing. Her body was recovered at 11.15 on the 11th January.

Ratepayers of the Houses:

- No. 45 Chamberlayne Road - Albert Ames
- No. 47 Chamberlayne Road - Thomas E. Dawes
- No. 51 Chamberlayne Road - Herbert J. Stevens
- No. 53 Chamberlayne Road - Mrs E. D. Pearce
- No. 55 Chamberlayne Road - Hubert Johnson
- No. 57 Chamberlayne Road - Charles F. Bullard *
- No. 59 Chamberlayne Road - Allen Cox

** The rate-collectors did not notice when anyone died as long as the money was paid, so Frederick Charles Bullard, a Time-keeper on the Railway had died in July 1939.*



Letter to Miss Bamforth.

7th June, 1941.

Miss F. M. N. Bamforth,
Cranbury Road Junior Girls' School,
Cranbury Road,
EASTLEIGH.

Dear Madam,

I thank you for your letter to hand and regret to inform you that it was impossible to salvage anything further of value from the debris at 55 Chamberlayne Road.

Yours faithfully,



Borough Engineer & Surveyor.

Miss F. M.M. Bamforth found accommodation at Penncraig, 23, Chalvington Road, Chandler's Ford, though after her retirement she lived at Ascupart House in Portswood Road, Southampton.

Report of the Bombing in the *Eastleigh Weekly News* of 16th January 1941.

RAID ON SOUTH COAST TOWN

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND DAMAGED

Owing to enemy action in which a school playground was damaged recently in a raid on a South Coast town, the children did not seem to mind at all, owing to the fact that they were told they could have a short holiday. The crater in the playground had been caused by an high explosive bomb.

Houses on the opposite side of the road were also damaged.

Other houses were also damaged in different roads of the town, but luckily no fires were started.

Several people were trapped under fallen buildings but were rescued by the town's A.R.P. services. It is understood that their condition is not serious although they were taken to hospital.

No-one remembers
any damage to the
School Playground.

Mrs Burge moved to Swanage.

30th January, 1941.

Mrs. B. Burge,
c/o 24, Chapel Lane,
SWANAGE, Dorset.

Dear Madam,

re:- Furniture, etc. from 57,
Chamberlayne Road.

Your letter of the 27th instant addressed to the Town Clerk, has been handed to me for attention.

If you will call at the Fire Station in the Town Hall Yard, I will arrange for one of the firemen to let you take what you require of your belongings.

I am pleased to hear that you are recovering from the shock after your unfortunate experience, and hope that you will shortly be quite fit again.

Yours faithfully,

Borough Engineer & Surveyor.

At 16.30 on the following day (10th) it was realised that

Mrs Alice Hiscock, a 78 year old widow, the housekeeper at 55 Chamberlayne Road was missing. Her body was recovered at 11.15 on the 11th January. She is buried in Eastleigh Cemetery.

Why did they lie about the date of her demise in the report of her death in the Eastleigh Weekly News?

E.W.N. 25th January 1941.

Tragic Death of Old Resident.—We regret to report the death of Miss Hiscock, late of 55, Chamberlayne Road, Eastleigh, which took place at her residence on Thursday, January 10th. Miss Hiscock, who was well respected and loved by all who knew her, had lived in the town over fifty years. The funeral took place at the Baptist Church on Wednesday, the hymn being, "Rock of Ages." Wreaths were received from:—H. Johnson and Gladys; Flo, Harry and Basil; Francis and Jean; Frank and Annie; Rose and Elsie; Ron and Gillian; Miss Rice; Miss Bamforth; all at Holbeach; Mrs. Fital; Dot and Les; Mr. and Mrs. Sandv; Edie and Dae; Flora and Lily; friends and neighbours.

Information

H/WR

12th August, 1942.

Messrs. Pearce, Harfield & Emanuel,
6 and 8, St. Michael's Street,
SOUTHAMPTON.

Dear Sirs,

Nos. 45, 47, 51, 53, 55, 57 & 59,
Chamberlayne Road, Eastleigh.

In reply to your letter of the 6th inst. re the above, I have to inform you that these properties were damaged as follows, on the 9th January, 1941 :-

- No. 55 - Totally destroyed.
- No. 53 - (Classification "B").
- No. 57 - (Classification "C"b).
- Nos. 45, 47, 51, 59 slightly damaged.

Repairs have been carried out to the slightly damaged houses and to No. 57, to the extent that they are now habitable.

No damage has occurred to these properties since the 9th January, 1941.

Yours faithfully,

Borough Engineer & Surveyor.

57, Cranbury Road, Eastleigh. - Edward John and Gertrude Mary Smooker.

The house was badly damaged in the Air raid of 9th January 1941.
but was repaired before the war ended.

In Cranbury Road bombing the brunt of the explosion was borne by numbers 55 and 57 though 45, 47, 53 and 59 and several houses opposite were damaged.

Mrs. Smooker was treated at a First Aid Post.

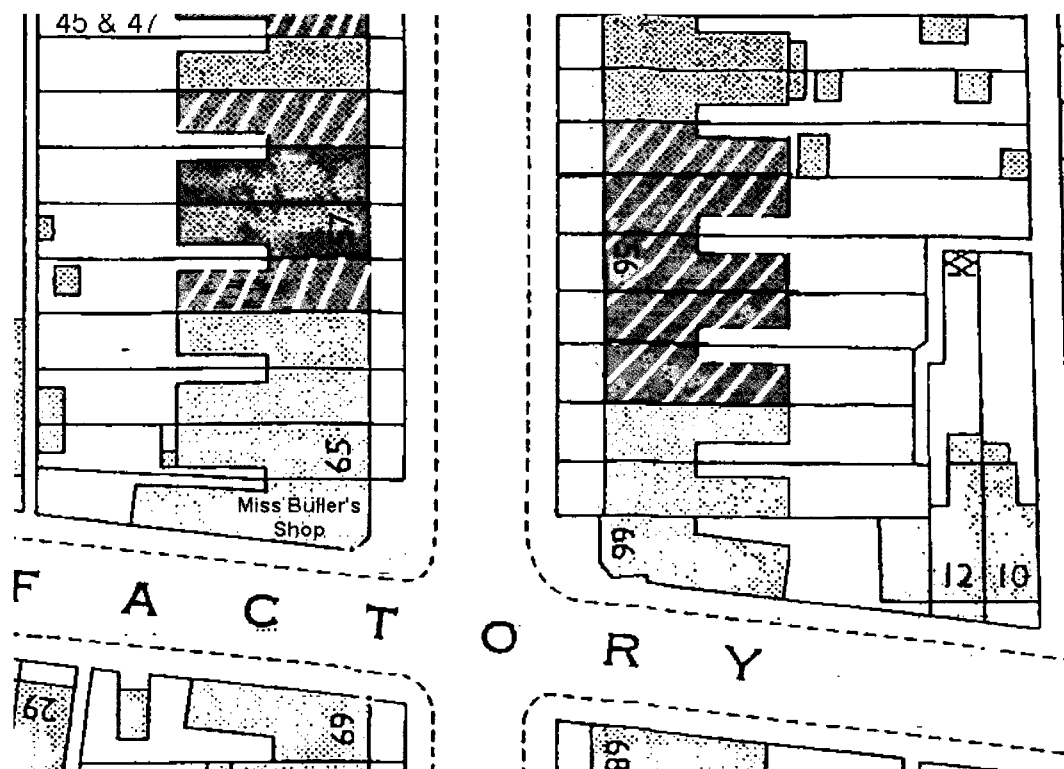
A Mr Edward J. Smooker, aged 58, living at 24 Cranbury Road, a school caretaker, was buried 2nd April 1941. [Was he an unrecorded war casualty?]

The house was repaired and occupied by Albert T. Channell by April 1942.

Gertrude Mary Smooker, his widow, died aged 80 in December 1962 - 10, Drake Road, Bishopstoke.

52 - 60, Cranbury Road, Eastleigh.

Numbers 52 to 60 sustained some damage in the Air Raid of 9th January 1941, as the Landlord (Miss E. L. Beer) was asked if she wanted the repairs done by the Council

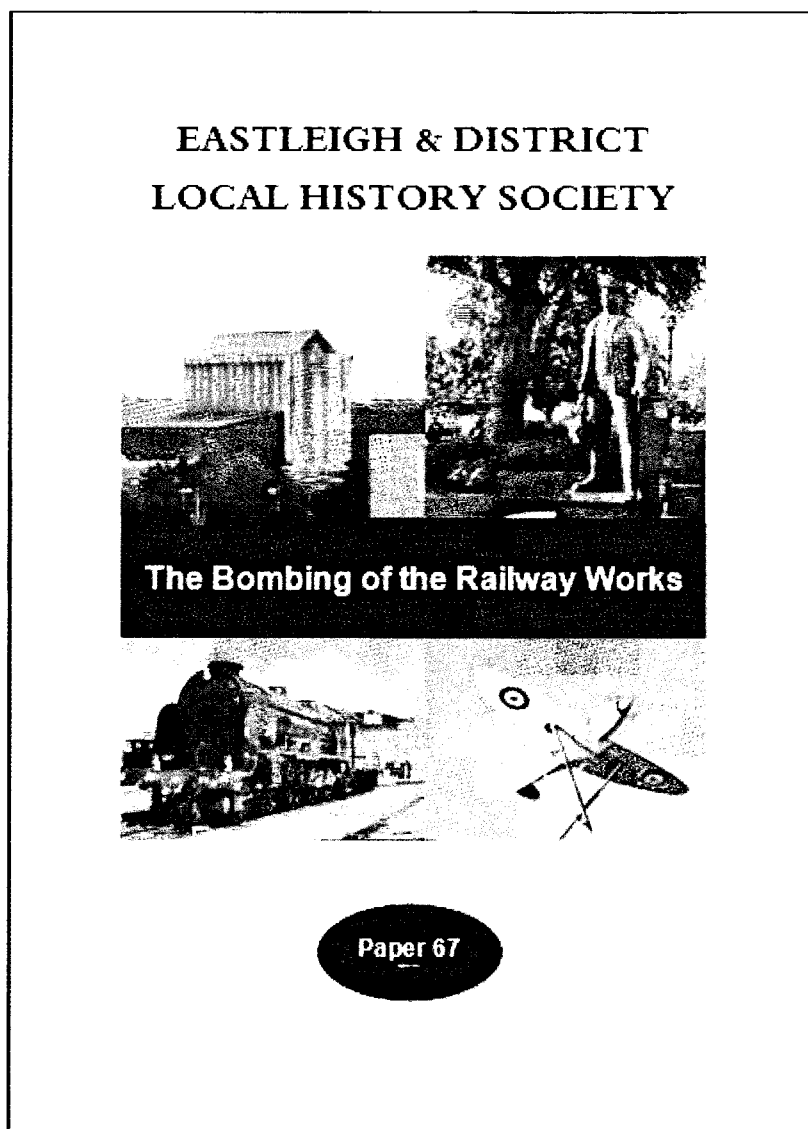


Ratepayers of the even numbered Houses in Cranbury Road opposite the one which was destroyed.:

- No. 52 Cranbury Road - William A, Lee
- No. 54 Cranbury Road - Harry Moreton
- No. 56 Cranbury Road - Elizabeth Godfrey
- No. 58 Cranbury Road - William H. King
- No, 60 Cranbury Road - John W. Scott

**19th January 1941 -Raid on Locomotive Works and
Southampton Road.**

see Paper 67



Raid of 25th February 1941. –Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford

Houses in Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford. Thornbury 245 Winchester Road and Berea Cottage, 247 Winchester Road were destroyed by High Explosive Bombs.

27th February, 1941.

Mr. G. F. Smith,
c/o Mr. R. H. F. Reynolds,
"Green Ridge",
Winchester Road,
CHANDLER'S FORD.

Dear Mr. Smith,

I have been directed by my council to convey to you and your family their deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

The Minister of Health also asks me to express the deep sympathy of His Majesty's Government with you in your loss.

It is my earnest hope that Mrs. Smith will make a speedy recovery from her injuries, and that throughout the hazardous days which lie ahead, you and your family may be protected from any further brutality of an enemy whose methods are, to say the very least, cowardly.

Yours sincerely,

Houses

Date of Raid	Address	Head of Household	Date re-occupied
25 February 1941	Thornbury	George F. Smith	destroyed
	Berea Cottage	William Haigh	destroyed

Fatalities.

25th February 1941	Thornbury, Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford.	Annie Smith,	widow of G. F. Smith aged 82.
	Thornbury, Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford	Isabel Margaret Smith	her grand-daughter and daughter of G. F. Smith, aged 4.

**MR. G. F. SMITH'S
BEREAVEMENT.**

Reference to the severe loss sustained by Mr. G. F. Smith, a former Councillor, by the tragic death of his daughter and mother, and the severe injuries sustained by his wife, was made by the Mayor, who announced that he had sent a letter of sympathy to Mr. Smith.

FUNERALS OF AIR RAID VICTIMS

The funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Smith, aged 82, whose death took place through enemy action last week, took place at Eastleigh on Friday. The deceased lady was the widow of the late Mr. G. F. Smith, who formerly lived in Eastleigh prior to his death in 1935. Mr. G. F. Smith was for some years Station Inspector at Fareham. Since her husband's death Mrs. G. F. Smith had lived with her son, Mr. George F. Smith, at Chandler's Ford.

The funeral service was held at the Eastleigh Parish Church and was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. T. H. Randolph, M.A.). The memorial service was followed by cremation at the Stoneham Cemetery and the ashes were interred in the family gravespace at Eastleigh Cemetery. The family mourners were:—Mr. W. J. Smith, Mr. G. F. Smith (sons); Mrs. W. J. Smith (daughter-in-law); and Mr. Jack Smith

and Mr. Ross Smith (grandsons). Many friends were present at the Church.

The funeral of little Isobel Margaret Smith, aged 5 years, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Smith, of "Thornbury," Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford, took place on Saturday morning at St. Boniface Church, Chandler's Ford. The Vicar (the Rev. Harold Fryer) conducted the service and also at the graveside. Isobel lost her life by enemy action. The coffin was carried into the Church by her father and her eldest brother.

The family mourners were:—Her father; Cadet Ross Smith, R.A.F. (brother); Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Smith (uncle and aunt); Mr. Jack Smith (cousin); Mrs. Taylor and Miss Daphne Taylor (aunt and cousin); Mr. W. Hooper (uncle); Mrs. Feltham (cousin); Mrs. Frank (great aunt).

Raid of 3rd March 1941. - Kingsway, Chandlers Ford.

[96/149]

Your ref:—

G/A.

7th March, 1941.

FWP/JW.

Messrs. West Hampshire
Electricity Co. Ltd.,
Electricity House,
Station Road,
BISHOP'S WALTHAM, Hants.

For the attention of Mr. Piper.

Dear Sir,

re:—Properties in Kingsway.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 5th instant in connection with the air raid incident at Chandler's Ford on the night of the 3rd March, 1941, and very much regret to hear that you were not notified of the occurrence. This was definitely an oversight, and I have again given instructions for any further incident in the borough in which your company is interested to be reported to your representative immediately.

Yours faithfully,

Borough Engineer & Surveyor

The Properties in Kingsway.

[96/155]

8th March, 1941.

Mr. W. J. Bloxham,
Bourne House,
OTTERBOURNE.

Dear Sir,

re:- 87, Kingsway.

The above house has been demolished by enemy action. As no doubt you know, the Ministry insist upon the debris being cleared from demolished houses, and I shall be glad if you will therefore inform me by return whether you wish the council to clear the site and credit you with the value of the salvage.

re:- 89, Kingsway.

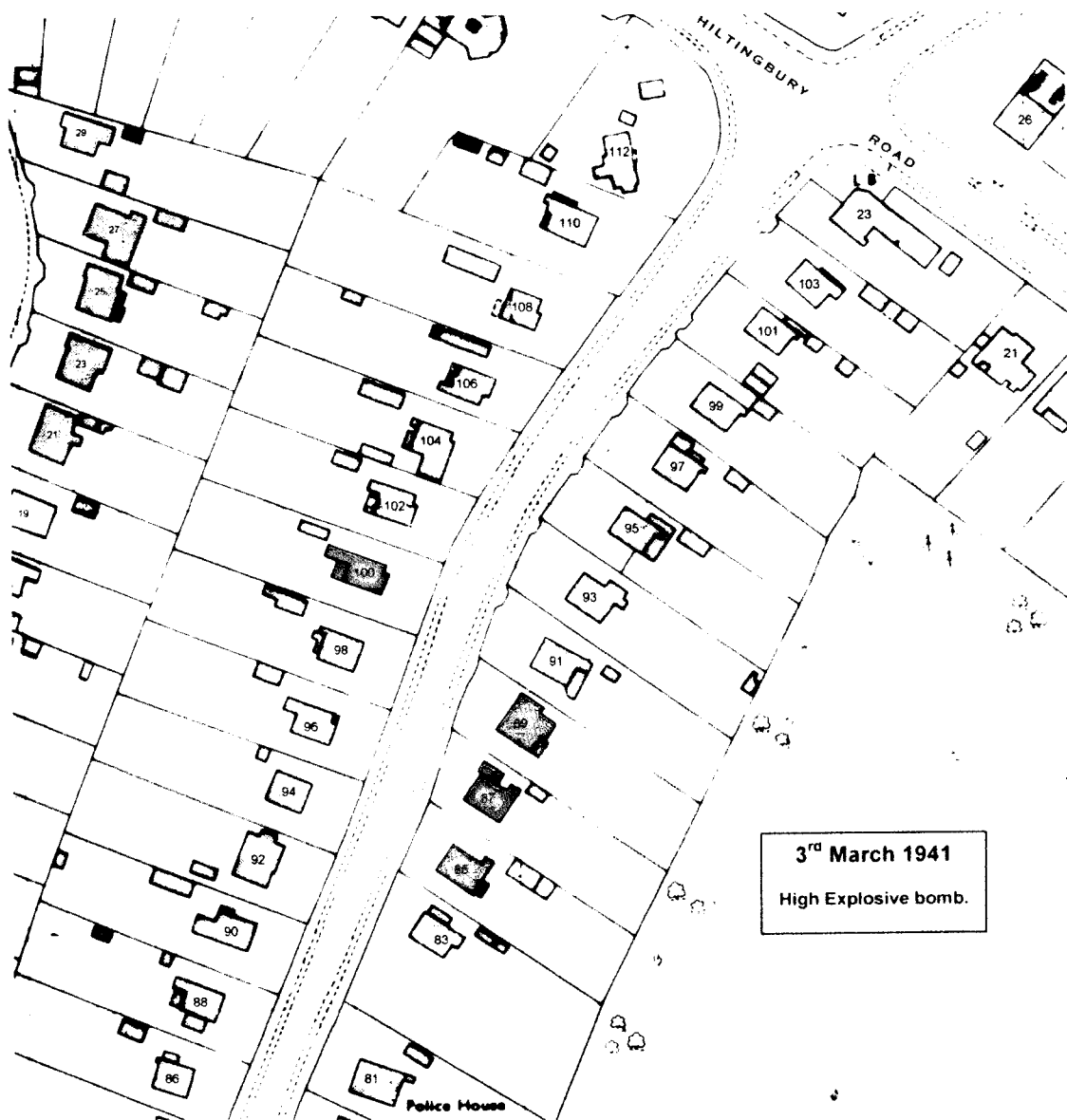
The above house was damaged by enemy action, and I understand that you verbally stated that you wished the council to undertake the repairs on your behalf. If this is so, please fill in
... the enclosed authorisation and return to
... me. I also enclose form V.O.W.1 for
[your claim for compensation, which should
be sent to the District Valuer.

Thanking you for your prompt attention to these matters.

Yours faithfully,

Borough Engineer ✓

Kingsway - Lake Road to Hiltingbury Road



Damage

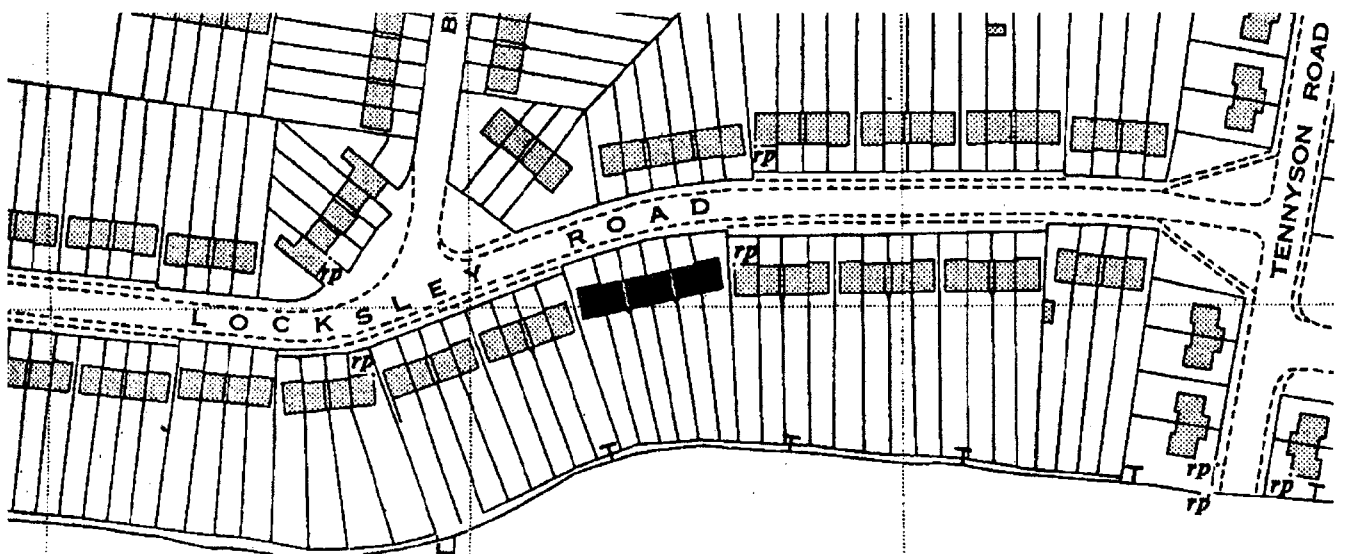
Date of Raid	Address	Head of Household	Date re-occupied
3 rd March 1941	85 Kingsway C/F	Ernest C. <u>Whittington</u>	Destroyed [Stanorm]
	87 Kingsway C/F	Samuel G. Richards	Destroyed [Oakdean]
	89 Kingsway C/F	Leslie F. Payne	28 August 1941 [Pine View]

Raid of 22nd June 1941. Block of houses in Locksley Road.

Roofs blown off by a parachute mine which exploded to the South of Locksley Road.

Damage.

Date of Raid	Address	Head of Household	Date re-occupied
22 nd June 1941	34 Locksley Road	Herbert J. Kinchington	18 August 1941
	36 Locksley Road	Bertram H. Emery	18 August 1941
	38 Locksley Road	Thomas E. Cooper	18 August 1941
	40 Locksley Road	Arthur F. Cawte	18 August 1941
	42 Locksley Road	Albert J. Shilley	18 August 1941
	44 Locksley Road	George B. Kinchington	18 August 1941



The raid of 18th April 1942 – Wilmer Road & Greenwood Close

AGED WOMAN KILLED

Mother and Three Children Escape

Four bombs dropped on the outskirts of a south coast town during the night resulted in the death of one person and injury to several others.

Eleven occupants of an outdoor shelter at the rear of four houses which were completely demolished were unharmed.

A Mrs. Croucher and her three children, sheltering under the stairs of one of the houses, were rescued from beneath about a ton of debris and were uninjured.

The body of Mrs McCormick, aged 86, was recovered from the debris of a bungalow which was demolished, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Missebrook and their young nephew, on holiday from Bournemouth, were removed to hospital.

*From the Southern Daily Echo
18th April 1942.*

Four houses at the south east end of Wilmer Road were destroyed. The 100,000 gallon water-tank on Grantham Green was damaged.

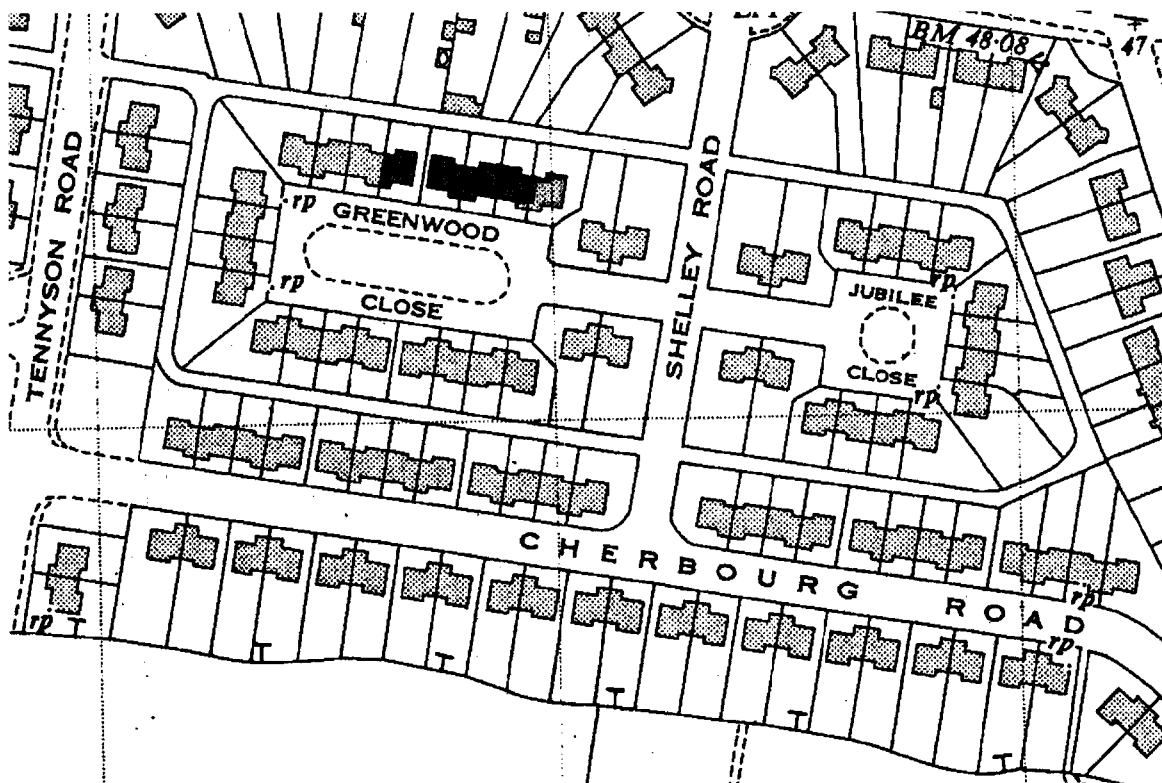
Mrs. Croucher lived at 49 Wilmer Road.

A row of Old Age pensioners' Bungalows in Greenwood Close was destroyed.

Mrs. McCormick and Mr. Missebrook were killed.

The Rescue party who had been sent to Jubilee Close were:

C. Brown
W. Yates
H Burt
E. Rix
W. Lush
S. Mundy
J. Baker



Fatalities

18th April 1942.	19, Greenwood Close.	Sarah McCormack	aged 86, widow of John McCormack.
	21, Greenwood Close.	James Misselbrook	aged 83, died of shock - before 28th April, in Winchester Hospital

Damage.

Date of Raid	Address	Head of Household	Date re-occupied
18 th April 1942	49 Wilmer Road	William R. Croucher	Destroyed
	51 Wilmer Road	Charles E. Reed	Destroyed
	53 Wilmer Road	Wilfred S. Woodley	Destroyed
	55 Wilmer Road	Charles J. Cole	Destroyed
	18 Greenwood Close	W. H. Webb	1946
	19 Greenwood Close	Mrs. S. McCormack	Destroyed
	20 Greenwood Close	Mrs. M. Gubbins	Destroyed
	21 Greenwood Close	J. Misselbrook	Destroyed
	22 Greenwood Close	Mrs. S. A. Denton	Destroyed

The Warden's Report on the incident at Greenwood Close.

Civil Defence Rescue Service.

Rescue Service Headquarters,

Shakespeare Road Depot.

Incident on 18th April, 1942.

Leader's Report.

- 02.20 Alert sounded.
No. 1 party was on call and reported to Depot.
- 03.35 Received message from Control to go to Jubilee Close.
- 03.40 Left Depot with party of seven men, Brown C.E. (Leader), Yates W., Burt H., Rix E., Lush W., Mundy S., Baker J.
- 03.45 Arrived Jubilee Close and reported to Incident Officer, who was Police Sergeant Parker, at Greenwood Close. He informed me that three bungalows were down and four persons unaccounted for, other persons were working and clearing debris when I arrived on site. I immediately took charge and made a reconnaissance, found out that 3 persons were trapped in No. 21 bungalow and the other in No. 19 bungalow. Distributed my men who got to work at once.
- 04.00 The first casualty who was alive was removed from No. 21.
- 04.20 Casualty removed from No. 19 who was dead.
- 04.25 Some of my men were digging for the other two casualties at No. 21, could see would want some more help, sent message to Depot for another party.
- 04.30 No. 3 party arrived, W. Blake (Leader).
- In between the time 04.25 and 04.30 the Officer-in-charge of Fire Brigade asked me if I wanted a party of his men to help me out, I thanked him and declined as had already sent for another rescue party. The Officer-in-charge of Fire Brigade also sent me a message asking if I wanted a crew and a pump to stand by as gas was escaping, I also declined that offer as I did not think it was necessary. Sent message back and thanked him.
- 04.55 Removed another casualty who was alive from No. 21 after some strenuous digging.
- 05.10 Removed the last casualty from No. 21 who also was alive. Reported to Incident Officer that all casualties had been removed, he was satisfied and he closed the incident and released the rescue parties at
- 05.15
- 05.45 Arrived back at Depot, examined men for injuries, they were all well. Also they were in good spirits as we all thought we had done a good job in getting the live casualties out, they all worked willingly, jolly hard and in harmony.

(Sgd.) C. BROWN.

Leader.

C. Brown



Damage to Grantham Green Tank.

The bomb which destroyed houses on the corner of Wilmer Road on 18th April 1942 damaged the Static Water Tank just opposite.

[102/244]

Your ref:-
FES/PMB.

1st October, 1942.

The Divisional Officer,
National Fire Service,
Divisional Headquarters, "A" Division,
No. 16 Fire Force,
Hillfield Gate,
Burgess Road,
SOUTHAMPTON.

Dear Sir,

re:- Concrete water basin.

With reference to your letter of the 29th ultimo, the concrete water basin in Grantham Road was damaged by enemy action, and it would appear that the floor has lifted and the bitumen joints become loosened. The basin was emptied and new joints run, but it does not appear to be satisfactory.

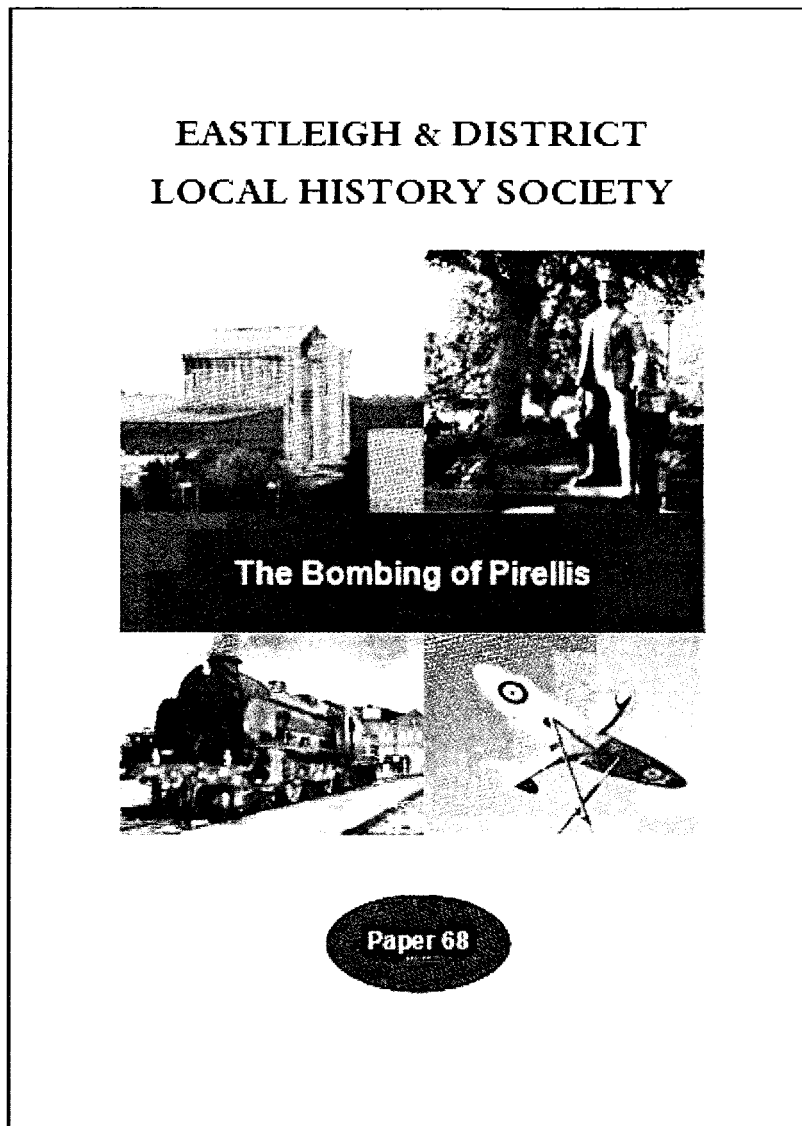
I would suggest that I have the basin emptied again and provide a new floor.

Yours faithfully,

The raid on Pirellis 22nd June 1942.

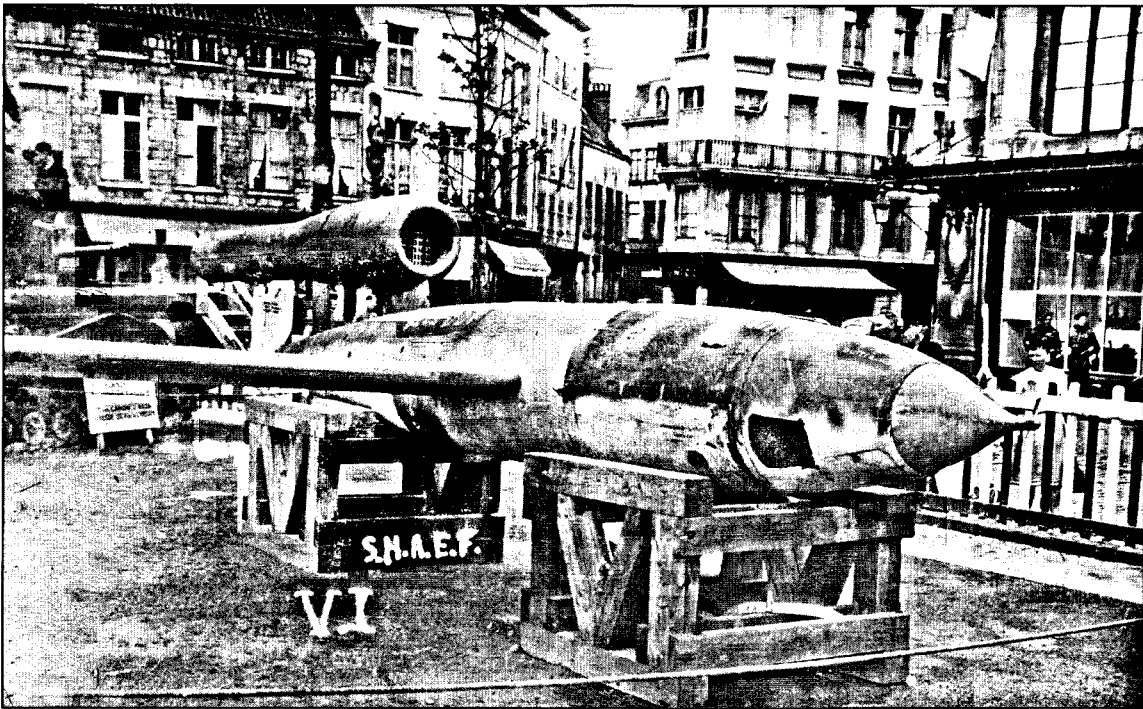
And other extensive damage with casualties..

see Paper 68.



The Flying Bomb Raids

7th – 15th July 1944.



Captured V1 "Doodlebug" Flying Bomb

Flying Bomb Raid - Fairoak - 7th July 1944

Report in *Eastleigh Weekly News*.

FLYING-BOMB BLASTS BUNGALOWS

Early on Friday morning a flying-bomb exploded in a field of corn and market garden crops in a Southern county, when extensive superficial damage to houses, bungalows and an inn was caused by blast.

The only person seriously injured was Mrs. Annie Shilley, a widow, aged 68, who has been admitted to an eye hospital, owing to facial injuries.

Mr. M. Judd, who lives next door to Mrs. Shilley, said: "I was just inside the front door when I heard the engine of the doodle bomb stop. I shouted to my wife upstairs and she got under the bed with the children.

"I threw myself down on the floor in the hall and when I looked over my shoulder I saw the red glare of the explosion."

Mrs. Shilley, who heard the robot bomb coming, was in the act of leaving her bed for shelter when the missile exploded in front of her son's bungalow.

Several persons, including two young children, received minor cuts and scratches due to flying glass.

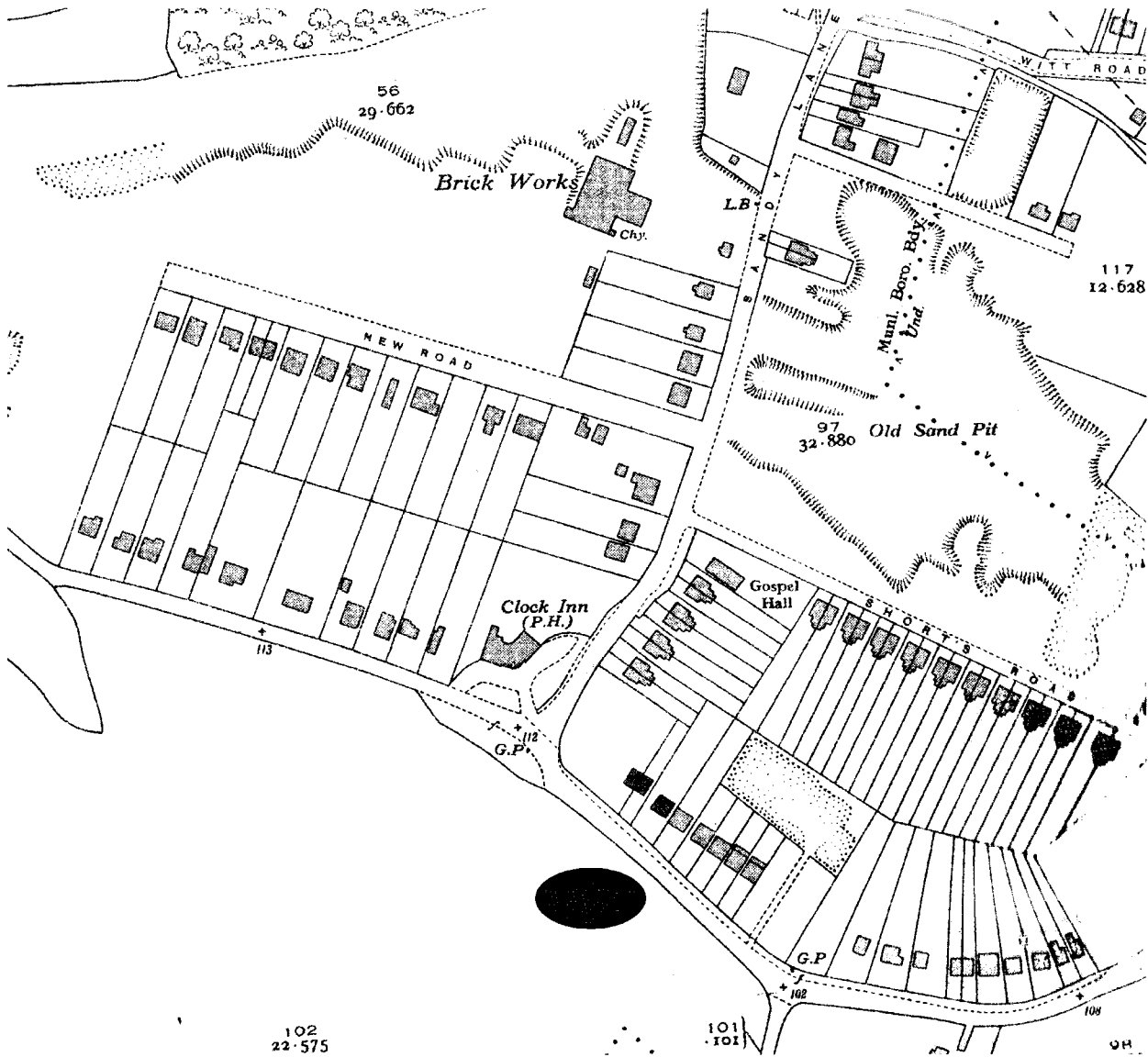
The small number of casualties, it is thought, was due to the fact that most people were indoors and not standing outside watching.

An A.R.P. warden stated that he was literally blown out of bed by the blast.

First-aid repair squads were soon on the job repairing roofs and windows.

Most Serious Damage.

Date of Raid	Address	Head of Household	Date re-occupied
7 th July 1944	365 Fairoak Road	George H. Cougel	Stayed in part. Myrtle House
	367 Fairoak Road	Maurice Judd	Stayed in part. Hastings.
Other damage as far as Shorts Road	373 Fairoak Road	Leslie Pemberton	Roof blown off but repaired within weeks



Incident Report.

INCIDENT NUMBER	TIME OF ORIGIN	DISTRICT	LOCALITY	MAP REFERENCE	TIME OF INCIDENT	PRÉCIS OF MESSAGE		FIRE TYPE OF	BOMBS	
						DETAILS OF INCIDENT	HE. I.B. GAS		HE. I.B.	
17	11:45	102	22.575	22.575	11:45	Explosion	See below			
			22.575			Explosion	See below			
			22.575			Explosion	See below			
			22.575			Explosion	See below			

Handwritten details in the 'DETAILS OF INCIDENT' column:
 Explosion in the street between the Clock Inn and the Gospel Hall. The explosion was caused by a gas leak from a gas meter. The gas was ignited by a match. The explosion was very loud and caused a lot of damage to the buildings. The fire was extinguished by the fire engine. The gas was shut off by the gas company. The damage was repaired by the insurance company.

Doodlebug Raid - Bishopstoke - 12th July 1944

Corner of Weavill's Road

FATALLY HURT

When a flying-bomb exploded early this morning in the front garden of a bungalow in Southern England Mrs Ellen Short, aged 75, received fatal injuries and three bungalows were demolished.

At the time, Mrs Short, who lived with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr and Mrs. Charles Andrews was in an indoor shelter in company with her daughter Mrs Helen Andrews and her grand-daughter Joy.

Mr and Mrs Andrews who received serious injuries were removed to hospital. Joy was only slightly hurt.

*From the Southern Daily Echo
12th July 1944.*

ESCAPED INJURY

Mr and Mrs M. Merritt and their two children who lived next door to the Andrews family, were in their Anderson shelter, some distance from where the bomb fell, and were uninjured. Mr. Merritt told a reporter; "It is a miracle we were not killed. Yesterday I made up some beds in the shelter and last night we slept there for the first time since the outbreak of war.

" People who were sleeping in a nearby house had a narrow escape from serious injury when the side of the house collapsed.

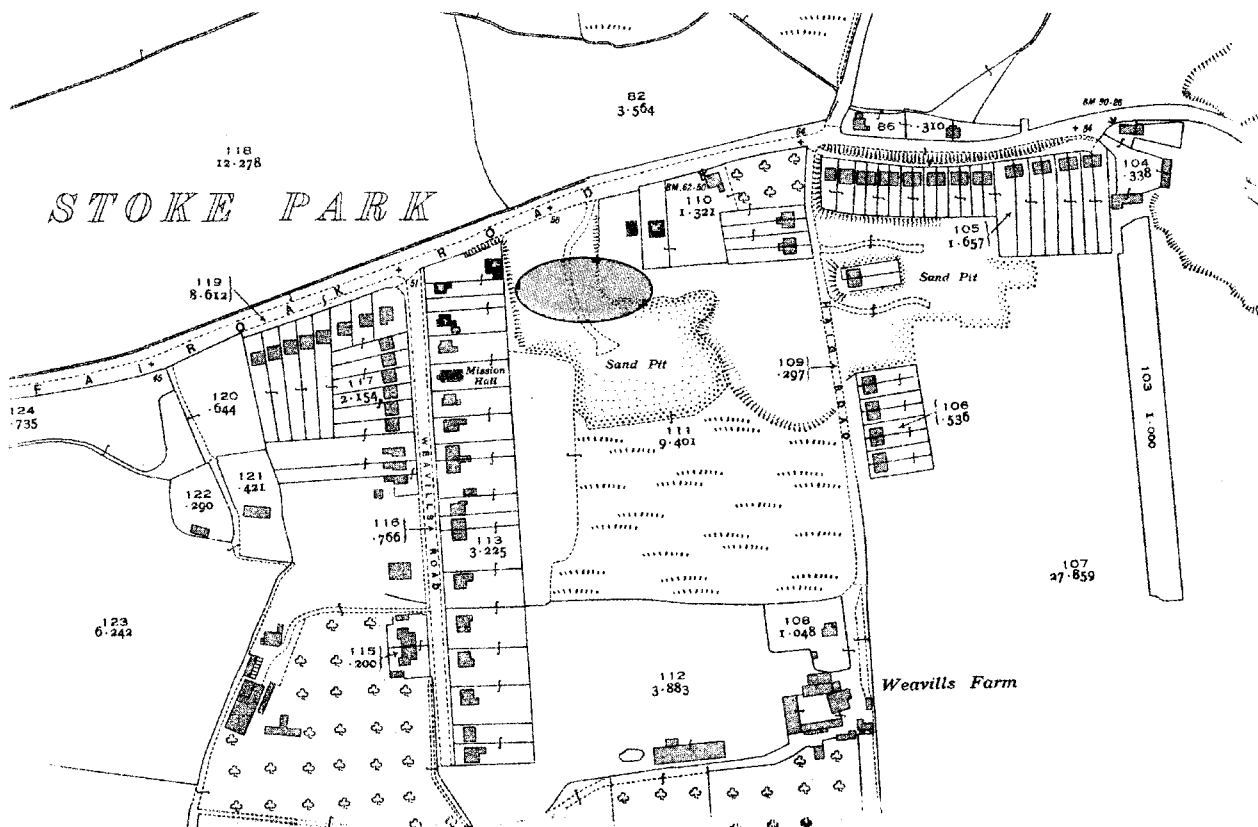
" A number of persons were rendered homeless, but most of them have been given temporary accommodation by relatives.

Damage.

Date of Raid.	Address	Ratepayer	Date re-occupied
12 th July 1944	1 Weavill's Road, (now 3)	Walter W. Moncton	destroyed
	2 Weavill's Road, (now 5)	Frederick Green	damaged
	208 Fair oak Road	Charles G. Andrews	destroyed - Charmajoy
160 other houses were slightly damaged.	212-216 Fair oak Road had not been built		
	210 Fair oak Road	Maurice H. Merritt	destroyed - Merton
	218 Fair oak Road	Harry Instrell	destroyed - Parana
	220 Fair oak Road	Robert E White	destroyed - Treize

Death.

11 th July 1944	Charmajoy, Fair oak Road.	Ellen Short	William Andrew Short. Aged 76.
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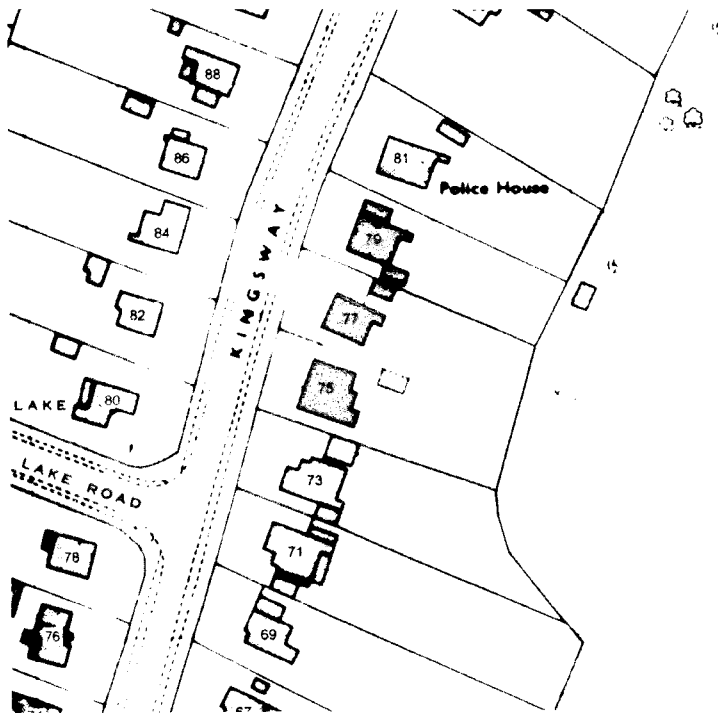
**Incident Report of
Flying Bomb at Corner of Weavill's Road – 12th July 1944.**

						HANTS CONTROL INCIDENT C				
INCIDENT NUMBER	DATE	TIME OF ORIGIN	DISTRICT	LOCALITY	MAP REFERENCE	TIME OF INCIDENT	PRÉCIS OF MESSAGE--		BOMBS	
							DETAILS OF INCIDENT	FIRE TYPE OF	NO. I.B. GAS	UN. H.E. LB.
120855	12/7/44	0330	STOKE PARK	WEAVILL'S ROAD	918 264	918 264	FLY			
		0455	"	"	918 264		DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. CASUALTIES TOTAL 2 DEATHS			
		120855	"	"			03.45/20 Four out of seven explosion Weavill's road, corner (off ground) 2 off 15 mins dup. Evacuation of dwellers heavy damage A-2 B-1 D-609 F			
		1509/2	"	"			100+ Casualties killed IF necessary IF IM slight 2 F 2 M. Casualties now increased to slight 1 3 M			

Doodlebug Raid near Kingsway Chandler's Ford - 12th July 1944

In field between the Church of St. Edward the Confessor in Winchester Road and 30 Kingsway.

Date of Raid	Address	Occupier	
12 th July 1944	75, Kingsway C/F	Jesse J. Bowles	damaged
200 other houses were slightly damaged	77, Kingsway C/F	Eleanor R. Richards	damaged
	79, Kingsway C/F	William H. M. Hale	damaged
	100, Kingsway C/F	Joseph W. Ward	damaged



12th July 1944
Doodlebug



Incident Report.

ACIDENT NUMBER	TIME OF ORIGIN	DISTRICT	LOCALITY	MAP REFERENCE	TIME OF INCIDENT	PRÉCIS OF MESSAGE— DETAILS OF INCIDENT	BOMBS			
							FIRE— TYPE OF	FLY M.E.	I.B. GAS	UNEXPLODED H.E. I.B. GAS
232	0055 0855	BRISTOL	CHANDLER'S FORD	88311 8830	0250	<p>FLY DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, SLIGHT CASUALTIES. Speech with Nat Controller. CAS 3M1E all night In meadow near of Catholic Church on route A33. clay crater 30ft diam x 8ft deep. vacant in possibly necessary. <u>Some damage</u> D 100 E 100+. Casualties flight exposed 2 F3M 30 persons evacuated to friends</p>	✓			
	0950		Police							

Doodlebug Raid - Pine Road, Chandlers Ford - 15th July 1944

TWO PERSONS KILLED

Two persons were killed and five were seriously injured early to-day when a flying bomb crashed at the rear of two houses near a village in Southern England.

Mr. William Jones, aged 57, who was formerly employed as a Council roadman and who was killed lived in one of the two houses which were completely destroyed.

His daughter, Charlotte, aged 14, was amongst those taken to hospital with serious injuries. His daughter-in-law, Mrs. Nellie Jones, wife of Pte. William Jones, and her daughter, Daphne, aged xx were also taken to hospital. Her infant son, Dennis, was killed when the bomb exploded.

COO;- LOOK AT OUR HOUSE.

"Members of the Jones family were asleep in the house." a relative told a reporter. "They had been to their shelter earlier in the morning, and I believe they got so tired of waiting for the All Clear that they decided to go to bed. Dorothy, the four year old daughter of Mrs Nellie Jones, who was the last to be rescued from the debris, surprised rescue workers by remarking, on surveying the scene of the tragedy, "Coo, look at our house, Auntie."

The occupants of the other house which was demolished, Mr. J. W. Tatner and his two year old daughter, were rescued from an Anderson shelter a few yards away from where the bomb fell. Both were removed to hospital suffering from serious injuries.

Several persons received slight injury.

Early on Saturday morning a flying bomb demolished two houses in the suburbs of a south coast town, and several casualties occurred. Mr. William Jones, aged 56 (grandfather), was killed, also his little grandson, Dennis William Jones, aged 16 months. Mrs. S. Jones, Charlotte Jones (aged 13) and Daphney Jones (6 years) were taken to hospital and detained. Miss Jones (14 years) and Dorothy Jones (4 years) also received hospital treatment and then returned to relatives.

Mrs. Jones is leaving hospital at an early date, but has to return every morning to receive hospital treatment. All are doing well. Mr. J. H. Tatner and Miss K. T. Tatner also received hospital treatment.

Mrs. Moore and Miss Swinton are being cared for by friends.

Report in *Eastleigh Weekly News*.



A pile of rubble is all that remains of two houses destroyed by a flying-bomb, in a village in Southern England. Among the casualties were two killed.

Deaths.

15 th July 1944	2 Pine Road, Chandler's Ford	William Edward Jones	Aged 56
		Dennis William Jones	aged 16 months, son of Pte. William Jones, The Royal Sussex Regiment and N Jones

Houses.

Date of Raid	Address	Occupier	Date re-occupied
15 th July 1944	1 Pine Road (west side of road.)	James W. Tatner	destroyed
	2 Pine Road (west side of road.)	William Jones	destroyed
70 other houses slightly damaged	Green end bungalow	Andrew H. Aslett	damaged
	The Hayes	Dr. Arthur Moore	damaged
	67 Hiltingbury Road	Lancelot G. Goddard	27 August 1945
	69 Hiltingbury Road	Harry Smith	14 July 1945
	71 Hiltingbury Road	Herbert King	6 June 1945

Pine Road Flying Bomb – 15th July 1944. Incident Report

INCIDENT NUMBER	TIME OF ORIGIN	DISTRICT	LOCALITY	MAP REFERENCE	TIME OF INCIDENT	PRECIS OF MESSAGE		FIRE—		
						DETAILS OF INCIDENT		TYPE OF	UNEXPLODED	MILES
								HE. LB. GAS	HE. LB. GAS	MILES
1245	0530 0935	EASTLEIGH	BRANDELSAND	24923	0605/15	FLY	TWO HOUSES DEMOLISHED. DETAILS TO FOLLOW (1000)			
	0946			27022	0612/15	FLY	Exploded behind houses Pine Rd. Eastleigh Killed 1 man 1 child & seriously injured 11 12 in 2 children & slightly injured 11 in 11 12 in 11 children & 11 in 11 children class 12 approx 50 houses class 20 in 11 of 3 buildings necessary			

Flying Bomb on Stoke Park Farm – 15th July 1944. Incident Report

INCIDENT NUMBER	TIME OF ORIGIN	DISTRICT	LOCALITY	MAP REFERENCE	TIME OF INCIDENT	PRECIS OF MESSAGE		FIRE—		
						DETAILS OF INCIDENT		TYPE OF	UNEXPLODED	MILES
								HE. LB. GAS	HE. LB. GAS	MILES
4115	0114/15 0107/15 0300/15	Eastleigh	Stoke Park Farm	449 911395	0134/15 0127/15	FLY	LOUD EXPLOSION. PROBABLY FLY			
				919401		FLY	Slight damage to Stoke Park Farm to committee.			

Slight damage as far away as Fair oak Road.

The launch-sites for these missiles were soon overwhelmed and Eastleigh suffered no more bombing.

The war in Europe ended on 8th May 1945.

From the *Eastleigh Weekly News* 28th December 1944.

EASTLEIGH'S WAR REPORT

CASUALTIES AND DAMAGE

Official records to February 29th last show that there had been 23 deaths (12 men, 10 women and one child, 21 people have been seriously injured (no children), and 25 had been slightly hurt. The injured included six Civil Defence workers and two fire guards. High explosives dropped in the borough numbered about 100, incendiary attacks provided 17 incidents, and four parachute mines landed in the town.

The number of properties damaged up to the end of 1942 comprised 4,199 houses, 7 industrial premises, 32 business premises, 16 public buildings, and 13 others. The total of 4,190 included 18 totally destroyed, 17 unreparable, 26 seriously damaged but capable of repair, 2,830 slightly damaged, and 1,228 houses where the damage was confined to glass.

Mr. F. G. Lee, the Borough Engineer, was the ARP. controller at the outbreak of the war, and it was under his guidance the various Civil Defences received the initial training and instruction, which included Wardens, Rescue Squads, First Air Parties and Control Centre Staff.

Mr. Lee relinquished his post in 1943, when he was succeeded by the Town Clerk, Mr. J. C. Gardner.

The control room of Eastleigh's A. R. P. centre has been manned since the latter part of 1938 by the office staff of the Borough Council, and the lights have not been switched of either day or night in the room since the outbreak of war.

The first war casualties were on October [it was actually August] 15th 1940, when during an alert a Hudson bomber failed to clear a rising barrage balloon cable, and crashed on Council houses in Nutbeem Road. Two homes were demolished and fired when the plane crashed, resulting in the crew being killed, and Mr. and Mrs. Craig, who occupied one of the houses also lost their lives.

Fatal casualties have been seemingly few compared with the extensive damage done to property by enemy action. The heaviest raid occurred on June 22nd, 1942, when co-inciding with an attack on Southampton shortly before 1 a.m. It was preceded by the dropping of flares which lit up the town to such an extent that it would have been possible to read a news-paper in a surface shelter. Planes then dived down and dropped 17 H.E's and showers of incendiaries, which were so numerous that the whole of the town was silhouetted against the sky. There was considerable damage to industrial and residential property. Toynbee Road School received a direct

hit, and the police station and the Town Hall were also damaged. High Street and Market Street were littered with the shattered fragments of plate-glass shop windows. Of the 19 casualties seven persons were killed, and three were seriously injured. The dead were Mrs. Hart, of Leigh Road, and the 28 years old twin brothers Francis and Leonard Hart; also Mr. E. B. Kent and Mrs. A. Kent and Mrs. Winnell, all residents of Owen Road. Three wardens sustained injuries.

The first attack upon the town occurred on September 1st, 1940, when a single plane dropped bombs in Chamberlayne Road and Market Street. The house struck in Chamberlayne Road was that of the presiding Mayor, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. West, although both were rescued from the debris alive Mrs. West subsequently died from injuries received.

On October 8th, 1940, three Junkers flying low across the town firing machine-guns as they crossed, dropped 18 H.E.'s in the thick of the town and shopping centre. Three of the bombs fell on a works canteen, while others caused fires and damage. Many people were fortunate to escape injury from the flying bullets.

This incident caused two deaths, 10 persons were seriously hurt, and the nine less serious casualties included a War Reserve P. C. Several of the casualties were caused by machine-gun bullets, and several of the bullets penetrated the roof of the Town Hall and were found in the Mayor's parlour and the Town Clerk's department.

Perhaps the most outstanding raids at Eastleigh was the occasion of the Southampton blitz on November 30th and December 1st, 1940, when because of damage to telephone installations Eastleigh served as the dispatching point for A. R. P. messages, and more especially for the fire service. On the night of November 30th a plane, evidently hit, jettisoned a huge bomb which narrowly missed houses in Shaftesbury Avenue, but severely damaged them by blast. This bomb made a huge crater. Eastleigh Civil Defence personnel gave assistance to other areas on 10 occasions and reciprocal aid was received on two occasions from Southampton and Winchester.

In November, 1940, considerable damage to property was caused when a plane jettisoned a load of bombs at the junction of Spring Lane and Church Road, Bishopstoke. There were no casualties.

Chamberlayne Road and Nutbeem Road again had bombs on January 9th, 1941, when three people were injured. Just over a week later an enemy plane, apparently hit, unloaded eight bombs, five of which fell on railway premises, killing four members of a first aid party who were on duty.

On February 25th, 1941, a single plane dropped bombs at Chandler's Ford, the house of Mr. G. F. Smith receiving a direct hit, and causing the death of his mother and five-year old daughter. Shortly after the bomb had dropped Mr. Smith arrived in his car to discover his younger son endeavoring to relieve his mother, who was

trapped; the boy had miraculously escaped. Mrs. Smith was happily rescued and recovered from her injuries.

On four dates in March and April a total of 18 bombs was dropped in woodlands and open fields without causing personal injury, but two houses were demolished.

Eastleigh also suffered the effects of parachute mines on June 22nd 1941; the roofs of every house in Locksley Road were damaged by blast from two parachute mines exploding in the vicinity.

Four days later a similar occurrence in another part of the borough caused death or injury to a number of Service personnel.

On April 18th, 1942, bombs fell on a block of houses in Wilmer Road and on four of the Council bungalows for old people. Many of the bungalows were damaged and there were casualties.

The damage to property has been considerable in all quarters of the borough and as the housing shortage has always been acute, the proposition presents a serious item to the local authorities.