

## Transcripts of Sonya Teale's interview with Mrs Vera Newland, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2007.

### Part 4

This is part 4 of the recording of Mrs Newland made on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2007 by Sonya Teale. Words in *italics* are those of the interviewer.

It was a great relief to them we all had floods of tears, but it was quite an experience which we do want to live through to much.

I also had my hat ready to get married on the 1st of March so I had to put that over the wall of Portland Terrace and also a little bird I had and I thought he'd die of the cold but all was well and we my hat was quite good on 1st of March it looked quite smart with this little veil and the little bird survived so that was also very good.

Vic and I were married on the 1st of March on his first leave from the army. It was his birthday as well so of course it was great fun and speculation with that and we had seven days leave so we spent two days over the Meon Valley and two days with Vic's mum, two days with mum and it was time for him to go back but going over to the Meon Valley of course we only had little tiny lights on the car so you couldn't see where you're going when we got to Horndean we had a puncture and we and we had a car full of people everybody come in there we were going on their honeymoon they all joined in and so we had to stop we stopped outside of a pub and they already have to see to the puncture we went in and all the men cheered us with with their beer and then as we went on a bit further there was another loose pig that got out on the road and so we have it another stop for these loose pigs and then a bit further on there we were stopped and said put those bloody lights out.

When we go to where we stopped at my cousins at Meonstoke and she had a farm right in the middle of a field and it was no concrete path or anything you just walked in all the mud across there and at the bottom of the gate where we were there was a searchlight of course with that raid on the search lights were going there, planes were bombing over there but anyhow we got in there safely and they didn't have electricity or anything so we had little just tiny little oil lamps and cause everything was blacked out but when my brother he had been and collected all the eggs because of the big farm he would get down when it was bombing of course he had these eggs, he forgot he had these eggs in his pocket and so he had all these eggs in his pocket and that caused great laughter again so despite the war we had a lovely lovely time and when it was time for him to go back.

The next day I went back to work at Westbourne to The Lawns and I stayed there until I was expecting my first baby so Mrs Barker asked if I'd like to stay on she would have looked after the baby for me if I would stayed on but unfortunately I lost her so I did go back there anymore I came home and then I went down to Leigh Park House where the Fitzwygram's used to be because of Mines Department had it and I went there as a Messenger and I stayed down there for quite a long time until I was expecting my second baby and then after about four or five months I left there but that was again great fun among everybody and it was really lovely job and I loved it down there.

The house I'm living in now down Durrants Road we kept moving here in 1943 and I was paying eight and sixpence a week everything included water rates everything and we rented it for a long time and then the landlady died and she offered it gave them to her niece and her niece didn't want to know about it so she offered us to buy them so I was very shy and didn't know what to ask, tell her I'll pay.