

From the archives

Edited by David Rose

What a swell Christmas party that was



Evidently, the children's Christmas parties at Dennis Bros in Guildford were fantastic affairs. This one dates from 1934.

EVERYONE has memories of Christmas parties they went to when they were children.

There were games such as pass the parcel and musical chairs, jelly with ice cream, and a visit from Father Christmas who perhaps looked a little too familiar!

Nothing much has changed, except that in days gone by, when families weren't so well off, kids were probably more grateful for the food served up on their paper plates!

Seen here are three classic party pictures. Above are children of employees of Dennis Bros, the specialist vehicle maker, at a Christmas party in

1934. It was brought in by Ron Reading of Ash Vale who is pictured among the throng. His father, George, was the Guildford firm's chief cost accountant. In total he worked for Dennis for 59 years, from 1915 to 1969.

Ron himself worked for Dennis Bros, starting as an apprentice from 1940 to 1943. He returned in 1977 and was a sub-contract manager until retirement in 1990.

The picture seen top right was brought into our offices by Gerald Poole of Great Bookham, who takes up the story. "The photo was taken in 1943 at the first Christmas party at the Surrey County

He writes: "I have been searching my family tree and

came across this picture of a little girl receiving a present from Santa at the Friary Holroyd & Healy's brewery's Christmas party in 1949. All I know is that her name is Rosemary.

"As far as I know she could have been a half sister of my father, who died in 1965."

If you can help, you can e-mail Steve at didicoy207@yahoo.co.uk

The photo seen below was brought into our offices by Gerald Poole of Great Bookham, who takes up the story. "The photo was taken in 1943 at the first Christmas party at the Surrey County

Council North Cheam Day Nursery.

"I am pictured in the front, to the right of centre, on hands and knees looking directly into the camera.

"I wonder how many of the children seen in the picture could well be retired and living in places covered by the Surrey Advertiser and might recognise themselves?"

Gerald has a cutting from the *Sutton & Cheam Mail* and *Surrey County Mail* from June 9, 1944, that gives a fascinating insight into the nursery.

It was opened to look after children from the ages of four weeks old to five years whose

mothers were engaged in important war work. At the time of the article the nursery looked after 360 children every week.

Gerald gets a mention: "They [the nursery] even have a General Alexander the Second in blue-eyed and fair haired Gerald Alexander Poole, who, born at the time of Alemein, was named after the famous general."

The matron was a Mrs Jacobs Newman with a Mrs E. Jacobs second in charge. Similar to other nurseries set up in many Surrey towns during the Second World War, it was open from 7am to 7pm and a fee of one shilling a day was charged.



Does anyone recognise this little girl? The event was a party hosted by the Friary brewery in 1949. Her name is believed to be Rosemary.



Santa makes his appearance at a nursery in North Cheam in 1943.

History book competition winners

THE was a bumper crop of entries hoping to win a copy of our new book *Guildford Remember When* by David Rose and Bernard Parke.

The competition appeared here on November 16 and the six lucky winners were: Rosemary Peacock of Godalming, Mrs G. Ravenhill of Guildford, Jean Wickens of Guildford, Margaret Ford of Guildford, Mrs J. Bailey of Guildford and Dorothy Hoad of Guildford.

The answer was that the Queen's coronation was in 1953.

Copies of the book, that takes a nostalgic and historic look at Guildford from the late 1930s to the 1960s, is available from both high street and internet bookshops.

The recommended retail price is £14.99.

The Professionals



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YUMMI Scrummi is offering a total body conditioning and fitness solution for real women, with real lives, real parties to go to and real cravings for chocolate.

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Guildford Hearing Centre

THE Guildford Hearing Centre, at 4 Trinity Gate, Epsom Road, has been open for almost a year and is a source of hope for local residents with hearing loss.

The centre is managed by registered hearing aid dispenser, Michael Colclough RHAD, whose expertise has enabled hundreds of people come to terms with their hearing loss and helped them on the road to clearer hearing.

If a loss is detected Michael can then prescribe the right solution for them, based on a

number of factors including the severity and type of loss and the patient's lifestyle.

The centre is one of more than 60 full-time, state-of-the-art centres operated by Hidden Hearing, one of the UK's largest providers of hearing healthcare.

All hearing consultations are free and provide patients with a thorough and comprehensive examination, from which the dispensers can assess if a loss exists, and determine what solution, if any, will help the individual rediscover clearer hearing.

For more information or to make an appointment call 01483 230270.

A good back is not just for Christmas says Lucks Yard Clinic

THERAPISTS at Lucks Yard Clinic in Milford, believe that a fit and flexible back is something that everyone can have.

Its team, including chiropractors, podiatrists and sports therapists, work together to give clients' spinal and postural structure the best possible

alignment and function from the feet up.

A spokesperson said: "At the clinic we see school children on a daily basis, who have poor posture and movement difficulties but who quickly become freer and more flexible with our care."

"With this increased movement they also get more confidence, energy and get less headaches.

"Pregnant women also benefit from better alignment and flexibility, giving them less back and pelvic pain and better posture. There is no age limit for manual therapy and stiffness due to wear and tear really benefits from this method of treatment."

"The chiropractor, podiatrist and sports therapist will always assess each case individually and tailor the treatment accordingly.

"We also work as a team and liaise within the practice for the benefit of the patient.

Top tips for a good back at Christmas:

- Wear good supportive shoes when Christmas shopping, to reduce the strain on the lower back and legs.
- When shopping, bring a

back-pack to reduce the strain on the arms and do even the load if you are carrying several bags.

■ At the check out: stand with even weight on both legs and hips. Try to relax the muscles of the thighs and knees to reduce the pressure on the lower back.

■ Try not to write your Christmas cards all at the same time to reduce the strain on your arms and upper back.

■ Pull your stomach in to support the back when you lift the turkey out of the oven, or when carrying the Christmas tree inside.

For further details call 01483 527945. The website is: www.luckyardclinic.com



The Guildford Hearing Centre is at 4 Trinity Gate, Epsom Road.

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