

Dave Jacobs (joined 1944)

Rethinking back over 50 years is hard, and I may have misstated by entry year before. Now I recollect it followed D-Day; I was at a village in Wiltshire while all the airborne forces practices were going on. Here I passed to go to Bishop Wordsworth School in Salisbury. Then we moved to Portsmouth where I spent a miserable couple of months at Reginald Rd School, before having my grammar school pass transferred to Portsmouth Southern Grammar. Thus in September 1944 I went to Brockenhurst, (Ed: school evacuation time) for one term only before moving to the Highland Rd building in Portsmouth in January 1945.

I have a list from Portsmouth City Archives of all the pupils in the school for autumn term 1945. This contains many names I remember from the 1945 entry, but also many I do not. There are also several friends I had who must have joined later, as they are not in that list.

Names I particularly remember from our 1944 intake, the last evacuees, although I have not seen them since 1951 at the latest, are: Roy Bateman, Pete Bettsworth, Brian Daysh, Jim Etheridge, Ray Gordon, Pete Humby, John Lewis, Terence Mortimer, George Reed, Herbert Rolley, Ramon Valler, Keith Ward, Roy Watson.

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