

## **Written by Joyce Read**

My name is; or was Joyce Hannington. I lived at 61 Fletcher RD, Acton Green W.4. I was evacuated from Beaumont Park School bus then train to Dorchester, for 3 months. I was back home in time for the air raids, etc. I was 14 then by the time I finished school.

I remember the land mine in Church Path that wiped out whole families, and there was a lot of damage all around Acton lane. Even if it was quite wide spread. Many windows were shattered. So that was my first experience of German bombing.

Then there was a high explosive bomb that hit a few doors away from us. I lost two of my girl friends that I went to school with, it was such a huge creater that they would not find all the bodies. They had to have the funeral at the site. It was very sad.

Then not long after that we got a doodle bug that that hit across the street from me, and my best friend was killed too (Her name was Winnie Marriot), we were in our Anderson Shelter. Our house was damaged pretty bad so we had to get out, while they repaired it. The council put us in a flat in fielding Rd., Bedford Park.

Now for some humour. We had lots of relatives living near by so they helped us move stuff out. Well, it was summer thank God, but my mum knew it was thirsty work. Of course, there was no water or anything, but mum had been making home made Grape wine since we had a grapevine and dad had chickens. Mum used to trade eggs for sugar with our neighbours so she could make the wine and believe me it was pretty potent. So mum poured it out in eight ounce glasses for the helpers. Needless to say they went home very happy.