

R.H.S. was already a well known girl's school when I ~~joined as a~~ won one of the 10 Scholarships<sup>part of</sup> for Grammar School education. Unlike many<sup>of</sup> them & now I loved school. Many of the girls travelled daily by train (no school buses then) & those of us in the town walked up the long hill past the railway station from where it was just a short walk. Later, when I had a bicycle I cycled from the other side of town, up Bewdley Hill.

These were the War Years, Paper shortage, so exercise books had to be scrutinised each time before we could have a new one, we had to write in every margin, top, sides & bottom. (But it was during these I made many lifetime friends.)

I owe a debt to many of the teachers of that era. Miss Whitaker, (I went <sup>on to</sup> study, English) my love of Shakespeare was founded at R.H.S. with our annual visits to the Stratford Theatre, & the local Rose Theatre, where we were fortunate to have "live performances". I remember the Ballet Rambert for one. \*

My love of <sup>classical</sup> music was founded at the High School. Morning Assemblies began with music & once a week by one of <sup>accompanied by one of</sup> our own talented musicians, Sheila Jacobs, & <sup>an</sup> <sup>violin</sup> <sup>teacher</sup> Miss Thatcher, & our own school orchestra, in which I played the violin, <sup>very</sup> badly, & my teacher Miss Fitzgerald.

I remember Miss K. White, her protection of Miss Gidfield who was our Headmistress; a ~~the~~ multiple uses of her office behind the of her office, behind the curtain. ~~Miss White's~~ ~~brother~~ Captain White who I believe was her brother & a very senior member of the Secret Service, Captain White - who wrote regular letters about this war to us all. <sup>read at</sup> ~~Assemblies~~  
The War years.

Rosemay Morgan's remembrance in 2019 reminded me too of those war years & ~~my own father~~ the parades held during those times. My own father was in the Home Guard Parades & the subsequent Victory Parades. V.E. & V.J. Celebrations.

Miss Eveset - I must mention (I was never a Scientist, but she was the school's Girl Guides Captain, which could only take place on a Friday afternoon (no home work night) we were discouraged from taking part in any out of school activities, except school ones. I joined the Girl Guides & subsequently became a Guide, a Brown Owl, a Captain, a camper, a quarter master & a Captain.

I remember Mrs. Gethin, our P.E. teacher who was allowed to come back to teach as a married woman because of the war only later did I realise that all teachers in those days were 'Miss': unmarried.

I believed at the time that all our teachers at the high school were spinsters because

of the Great War, when so many men died (clay year later I became involved in such discrimination, I wasn't "allowed" to apply for a teaching post, because I was married to a headmaster. That didn't stop \* me! I digress.

I doubt that many, if any, would remember me personally now, but I remember that it was the era of Diana Phesey, Phesey, Sheila Jacobs & Evelyn Hickey. I personally rose to the "giddy heights" of Head of Cymbert House & Swimming Captain, visiting Alverton College to swim each year was our highlight. It was the time when we (the school) were saving for our own swimming pool, the acquisition of neighbouring properties, & as V<sup>1</sup><sup>st</sup> Palmer we moved to Pelham House, & learning to play Squash in Hillgrove. Happy memories

\* Miss Whittaker taking us to Ludlow Castle to present Comus during it's festival. - that festival today is a much more famous festival, not for the Ludlow School girls.

I subsequently, on leaving school went to Teachers Training College, where I met my husband to be, at London University another story!