

Dave King audio file

(recording made 5.3.2020 by Nathalie Hetherington)

Dave King was born in Milborne Port in 1938 in South Street, the second of three boys. His parents were Ernest and Dorothy (née Chant) King. The King family has been in the village for many hundreds of years.

Running Order (approximate minutes and seconds)

Start - Great-grandparents and grandparents, military experience

0.40 - parents born in Milborne Port, father one of nine children living at Newtown, early life and work

1.15 – Frank Chant in the Boer War and the World Wars

1.41 – Canadian prospects during the Second World War

2.37 – childhood memories growing up during the war with the soldiers

3.30 – the North Street search-light

3.48 – watching army manoeuvres

4.33 – US soldiers in the old museum in South Street & the novelty of having a shower

5.55 – soldiers departing before D-Day

6.15 – VE Day celebrations & bonfire & Spitfire drama

7.22 – Sunday school outings and seeing the sea for the first time at Weymouth

8.45 – the cold Winter of 1947 and seeing aurora borealis

10.45 – first earnings and keeping pigs!

13.48 – starting an apprenticeship with builders CP Unwin

14.05 – National Service & the Boys' Brigade

16.16 – changes in working life in the village

17.38 – changes in children's lives

18.21 – rabbit hunting

18.52 – boiled chicken as a treat at Christmas!

19.24 – people seemed happier with less

19.44 – living with evacuees during the war

20.10 – friendship with Mary Cuss

20.37 – Christmas stockings during the war – scent of oranges!
And the first bananas!

22.00 – parents' characters

22.50 – more on the evacuees & the soldiers

22.23 – mother's discipline! & boyhood mischief

25.20 – sense of community

26.22 – father's return from the war

29.24 – death of parents

30.22 – the Boys' Brigade

32.05 – school life at Church School and three of the best for
smoking! No hard feelings...

34.35 – using your common sense and making-do

35.08 – not the best of pupils! – classroom tricks...

37.00 – marriage and children

