



# PERMISSION TO SPEAK, SIR!

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**RIP** Bill

**DAas**

## Wonderful Watford

May I say a big thank you for PTSS No75 (Spring 2013). Superbly produced, with lots of information and items of great interest. Thank you for the article on Jimmy Perry's Watford, wonderful to read.

Thank you also for the four images from the episode 'The Royal Train'. They give a strong intimation of the preparation and filming of certain sequences. This was a very well written episode, with trademark humour and dialogue, and clever action scenes, evoking memories of old adventure films. The public was also allowed to view filming as it happened.

Mr B Groves (297), Worcester.

## In Memory of Bill Pertwee

More sad news about another Dad's Army star, Bill Pertwee. Other than starring in Dad's Army, he was often to be heard on radio in *Round The Horne*, as well the Dad's Army radio series which can be heard on Radio4 Extra.

Now we've lost our president, DAAS should continue because of its worldwide interest, and in memory of Bill Pertwee. A special edition of PTSS should be just on Bill.

I've just heard Frank Williams being interviewed about Bill on Coventry & Warwickshire radio.

Mr D Brown (830), Coventry.

*(The DAAS will continue under the watchful eye of the 'Vicar', Frank Williams.*

*Rather than dedicate a whole magazine to Bill Pertwee, members would be better served by reading his autobiography, 'A Funny Way to Make a Living' - Ed )*

## Origins

I was sorry to read of Bill Pertwee's death; I met him more than once and he seemed a nice guy. I, too, remember that event at the Imperial War Museum which led to the founding of the Society. I just read Graham Rinaldi's biography of Will Hay, in which Jimmy Perry said that watching *Oh Mr. Porter* helped inspire the characters of Mainwaring, Pike and Jones. I can visualize Will Hay, Graham Moffat and Moore Marriott in the roles. Also Norman Wisdom was a Dad's Army fan. Can anyone else visualise Edward Chapman and Jerry Desmonde as Mainwaring and Wilson?

Watching the repeat of 'The Test', I noticed an inconsistency. In an earlier episode - 'Menace from the Deep', I think - it was said that Hodges was the cricket club's best bowler - which he proved when dealing with a German mine. So why was

he so put out when E.C.Egan threw his shoulder out? And how could Egan have bowled out Hutton, Edrich and Hardstaff in the same game when they played for different counties? Would that have been in the Gentlemen v Players match or what?

Mark Taha (42), Ealing, London

## Two Greats

It was extremely sad to hear the loss of William (Bill) Pertwee on Monday 27 May.

Bill will be sadly missed by his family, close friends and his fans. My family and I would like to send our sympathy to his family.

When we were making our way up to Thetford on Friday 17 May, we also heard that Paul Shane sadly passed away the previous day. We would also like to send our sympathy to Paul Shane's family - he will also be sadly missed. Both Bill and Paul were nice gentlemen and we were privileged to meet both of them over the years.

So, wherever they both are, I hope that Bill will tell the rest of the cast of Dad's Army to "Put that light out!" and Paul gets to organise that holiday camp.

RIP Bill and Paul

Neil Kitchen (2014), David & Nicola Fair, Swansea.

## Friendly Day

I would like to say how much, once again, my wife, son, family and I enjoyed the Dad's Army Day at Bressingham in May.

Thank you to all those involved in organising a splendid event.

It gave us much pleasure to meet and chat with Jimmy Perry and the other cast members there - they were, as always, so friendly and welcoming. The occasion was all the more special and poignant for the final presence of Bill Pertwee. Thank you, Bill and all the cast members, Jimmy, David and all involved with the shows for the pleasure you have given, and will continue to give.

Mervyn Carey (259), Cranbrook, Kent.

*(Bressingham Steam Museum were responsible for the format of the day and the exhibits and the DAAS ensured the celebrities were there - Ed)*

## Bill's Pride of Place

I just wanted to say how sorry we all are to hear the news of the very sad passing of Bill. I had just returned home this evening from work and my wife, Anita, told me the news. It was such a pleasure and a privilege to have met him last weekend and I know that our daughter, Charlotte,