

# Old school pals recalled

Nelder (Merano May 11). I also lived in Providence Street, first at No. 34 and later at No 25, and remember going to pictures with your brother Bob Holman.

Another old friend of mine was Reg Adams (third from right, front row in photo), whose father, a crippled ex-naval man from World War I, used to make and sell Pipers ice cream at Sherwell Arcade. Reg and I used to push his cart up Tavistock Road (Vinegar Hill) and finish off any left over "Okey's" as a reward.

During the winter he used to sell sweets and chocolate from his barrow to people queuing for the

"Gods" at the Palace Theatre. When sweet rationing came along, we did alright, possibly the youngest "black market" dealers in town!

Joan Haydon's brother Arthur, I recall, was very interested in football and Argyle, and at election times Councillor Ford's son Reg used to lead us around ringing a handbell and we would chant "Vote boys, vote boys, vote for Mr Ford." Also Mrs Whitlock's three sons, the youngest of whom was called "Dinkie."

During the worst air raids, my mother and I would go to the shelter at

Charles School playground in Shaftesbury Cottages, my dad would have been either fire watching at the City Hospital (now Freedom Fields) where he worked as a plumber or helping the local air raid wardens.

We boys would sometimes nip out of the shelter to pick up bits of shrapnel and I remember seeing the Salvation Army people at the corner of Shaftesbury Cotts giving out cups of tea etc to firemen and other ARP workers.

This must have been when they bombed a lot of the cottages, and I seem

to recall the Salvation Army still working when most of the other charity people had gone.

Is Dianne French in the school photo and what was her sister like? I can name quite a few of the children, but does anyone recognise Gerald?

He played the drums and his mother played the piano at the Wednesday afternoon concerts at Central Park, he was a cripple with leg irons.

KEN CLARKSON.  
Hotham Place,  
Millbridge,  
Plymouth.

NP1071/2



Mount Street School pupils in 1936