

CIVILIANS KILLED BY AN ENEMY BOMB

JOHN HENRY BERG aged 11

CLARA ANN GRAVETT aged 83

ALFRED LILLEYWHITE aged 74

MICHAEL JOHN ROBINSON aged 4

ANNE HEATHER ROBINSON aged 2

NELLIE ADA WAKEFORD aged 35

BARBARA WAKEFORD aged 11

ANN CATHERINE SHIRLEY WAKEFORD aged 3

FREDERICK WILLIAMS aged 12

The above named civilians were all killed during an air raid on Wednesday 5th January 1944 when a bomb hit houses in Watson Road. This was the highest number of fatalities from a single incident in the Dorking District in the whole of the Second World War.

This appalling tragedy resulted in the deaths of two elderly people, a young mother and her two children, two other young children and two schoolboy evacuees.

The young mother, Mrs Wakeford, and her children lived at 63 Watson Road. Where Michael and Ann Robinson were living is not yet known.

The evacuees, John Berg and Frederick Williams, had taken part in the emergency evacuation from London in September 1939. They started at Westcott School on 18th September 1939 and were living at 51 Watson Road. They returned to London a few weeks later but, when things got worse, came back again to Westcott in the hope of being in a safer place.

The funerals of all the victims of this tragedy took place at this Church on Saturday 8th January 1944.

