

## **Memories of Schooldays in Bidford 1932-42**

### **Hedley Langston**

At the age of five in the year 1932 I started school at the Infant School (now the Church Room). The teachers were Miss Smith, Mrs Cowper, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Armitage. The playground was at the back of the school. The boys and girls toilets were situated at the side. There were no water toilets.

On leaving the Infants I then went to the Junior School in Victoria Road. The teachers were Mr and Mrs Warner, Mr Noise, Mr George and Mrs Armitage.

On 18<sup>th</sup> July 1938 a Bristol Blenheim plane (L1153) crashed in Georges Elm Lane. About 10 boys were to see this plane in our dinner hour. It got late in the afternoon and I decided to go home, I was living at the Clink Cottages in Marlcliff. Next morning Mr Warner was very annoyed with us and we all had the cane.

On leaving the Juniors I then went to the Senior School in Dugdale Avenue. The headmaster was Mr Budden and the teachers were Mr Noise, Miss Free, Miss Lemon and Mr Stratford. The caretaker at the school was Mr Hall and Mrs Hall was the cook. The vegetables were supplied from Paddocks and we took the wheelbarrow for this.

Evacuees came from Coventry to Bidford School during the war. I left school at the age of 14 starting work at 10/- (shillings) per week.