

## Last bash for Martin Miles appeal

*There is just time to get tickets for the Midsummer Ball on Saturday 14th June at The Swindon Marriott. Dancing is to renowned local show band Locomotion and there is also well known local DJ, Gary's disco, who plays the sensible stuff !*

*This is the final event in aid of this appeal so we'd really like to go out with a bang to give Martin and family as much financial security as possible. Tickets for this 'black tie preferred' ball are £45 a head.*

*Make sure you bring plenty of money with you – there are plenty of great auction items to bid for, and there will also be raffles, 50/50 draws and other devious ways designed to free you of your hard-earned!*

*Why not discuss this with your friends or business contacts – what a great way of cementing a contract or deal! It will be a fantastic evening and one not to be missed so why not make up a table – or join me? For tickets, e-mail [midsummerball@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:midsummerball@hotmail.co.uk) or phone (01793) 766825.*

Malcolm Martin

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## Sweets, windfarm and Hitler

*The letter in your last issue from Don Kingston on the Wisers was brilliant, but I can go back even further than he did. As a small boy, I went to my first school at Highworth House in 1932 when, at that time, the corner was a sweet shop run by Mr. Peapel, where I would buy a bag of sweets for half a penny.*

*As to the letter on the Windfarm – how sad that Highworth's wonderful view of one of the most beautiful villages in England, i.e. Coleshill and its gorgeous park, has been completely ruined by those monstrosities. Perhaps if there is another war a bomb will be dropped on them.*

*Talking of bombs, I wonder how many can remember when Highworth was actually bombed one early morning in 1940-41 and when a lone bomber, obviously aiming at Watchfield Aerodrome, dropped bombs in the water meadows of Common Farm. (Two holes can still be seen.)*

*Also, how many can still remember when it was thought certain that the Germans were going to land in those water meadows by the Cole when forts were hastily dug in (two still remain) to try and prevent planes landing, and when Coleshill House was a secret army base, and the Highworth LDU (Dad's Army) with Fred Chick, my dad, and others would watch from the church tower.*

*Thankfully for the world, Hitler changed his mind after Dunkirk and decided to about turn and have a go at Stalin.*

John Manners, Common Farm, Highworth

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## Easy does it!

*I write in response to a letter from John Jefferies in the May edition. Mr Jefferies was obviously a little put out by my father's recollections in Eric Livall – I Remember When (March Link). Dad's a pretty amazing chap and has had a lot of important things to remember over the years so I think we can forgive him if some of the spots down memory lane have become a little overgrown and shady. I appreciate the need to sometimes get things absolutely accurate, but let's not forget the light-hearted manner in which my father's reminiscence was intended.*

Sarah Stacey (née Livall)

(Editor: Eric's recollections have kicked many people into action to write about local history. I felt Mr Jeffries made a good point about accuracy, but I was disappointed to read his admission about dropping rocks down the chimney of the Highworth train.)