

HARWICH, DOVERCOURT AND PARKESTON IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Preparations for war began in 1936 when an air raid precautions (ARP) committee was formed to prepare for aerial attacks.¹ The slow build-up to the outbreak of war reached a peak of activity in the last week of August 1939 when the ARP report centre at Harwich was manned night and day.² Parkeston Quay was closed on 2 September 1939, the day before the declaration of war, and the borough had its first two air raid warnings in the first week of the month.³ Identity cards were introduced and a blackout was imposed. In September 1939 the borough was said to be 'carrying on as normally as possible'.⁴ Despite some air raids and the presence of numerous army and navy personnel, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston were less affected than neighbouring coastal towns.⁵

POPULATION AND EVACUATION

Unlike at nearby Clacton, Frinton, Holland-on-Sea and Walton, the only significant evacuation from the London area seems to have been a party of invalids moved to the Shaftesbury Society holiday camp in Dovercourt early in the war.⁶

EVACUATION OF THE POPULATION

On 2 June 1940, some 1,168 children accompanied by their teachers were transferred by train to reception areas in Thornbury, Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge (Glos.), and Leominster (Herefs.). A further 53 or 54 children followed on 25 June and, in addition, 409 children were privately evacuated.⁷ A number of school-age children remained locally: the figure was reported as 323 in late June.⁸ All of those, plus 335 children under school age, were offered practical assistance by the council to be privately evacuated in September.⁹ By April 1941 the council was still keen to encourage the dispatch of children to Gloucestershire or Herefordshire, though only 13 'turned up' for the planned train journey the following month.¹⁰ The majority of children had returned by early 1942 as there were only 162 children and seven teachers remaining in Gloucestershire in May.¹¹ The last contingent of pupils from Harwich County High School returned to the borough in mid 1943, whilst the final eight evacuees were welcomed back to Harwich by the mayor in June 1945.¹²

Many of the adult civilian population made their own arrangements to evacuate. The town clerk reported in July 1940 that 1,893 people had done so in the previous fortnight leaving a total population (including children) of 6,925 in the borough and 940 in Parkeston.¹³

CIVIL AND MILITARY DEFENCE

CIVIL DEFENCE

When the war started Civil Defence (CD) was organised at a regional level with the Eastern CD under a Regional Commissioner based at Cambridge (Cambs.) and the Harwich area formed part of the Colchester Division of ECC's CD organisation. The Harwich ARP report centre was established at the police station in April 1939.¹⁴ Parkeston was brought into the borough's ARP scheme from early 1940.¹⁵ CD volunteer work was supplemented by the Women's Voluntary Services (WVS) which from 1941 provided helpers for the three rest

centres in the borough and cooked meals at the emergency canteens established to aid air raid victims as well as other services.¹⁶ In the same year mutual assistance street groups were formed to offer emergency accommodation; by early 1942 there were 679 such householders involved in these 'Good Neighbour' schemes.¹⁷

A network of public, school and ARP staff shelters was built to provide protection during air raids.¹⁸ The building of communal shelters at Parkeston commenced in early 1940.¹⁹ By June a further 13 public shelters in Harwich and Dovercourt providing accommodation for 1,056 people were planned; by the end of the following year a total of 26 public shelters existed in the borough.²⁰ Many private householders were entitled to their own Anderson steel shelters; by October 1939 a total of 1,052 of these had been delivered to the borough.²¹ By December 1939 every school in the borough had shelter accommodation at a total cost of some £4,000.²² New shelters were built for when Main Road School re-opened in 1943.²³

The council offices at 27 West Street, Harwich, were adapted in September 1939 to provide a first-aid post additional to those established prior to the war.²⁴ In Parkeston temporary first-aid posts were established at the Methodist church hall and a shop in Garland Road.²⁵ ARP exercises were occasionally carried out, as in August 1940 when several mock incidents were arranged.²⁶ Matters did not always run smoothly, however, as it was reported by Councillor J. W. Greenwood in April 1941 that some ARP casualty services staff were having a 'good time' whilst on duty.²⁷

The Harwich fire brigade was supplemented by Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS) volunteers and trained residents as members of fire parties.²⁸ There were a total of seven fire stations serving the Harwich area, with the headquarters at Cow Lane, Harwich.²⁹ Fire-watching groups and fire parties for business and domestic premises were established in 1941, initially on a voluntary basis.³⁰ By March there were 60 groups comprising 1,452 volunteers in the borough and in Parkeston fire-watching parties commenced duties at the end of the month.³¹ The National Fire Service (NFS) was inaugurated on 18 August 1941 nationalising all existing fire-fighting services, with Parkeston retained as part of the Harwich service.³² By January 1943 a total of 2,841 people were engaged as fire guards, 1,488 of them on a voluntary basis, representing a substantial proportion of the adult civilian population.³³

OCCUPATION BY NAVAL AND MILITARY UNITS

Naval units RN Nore Command controlled shipping routes on the East Coast from Flamborough Head (Yorks., E. Riding) to North Foreland (Kent), with Harwich one of four Sub-Commands and covering the coastline from the river Crouch to the Wash. HMS *Badger*, the name given to the headquarters of the flag officer in charge (FOIC) at Harwich, was established as a shore unit in September 1939, initially at the LNER hotel in Parkeston. In 1940 Harwich Sub-Command moved into Hamilton House, Parkeston, and an underground operations room was opened there in 1941. The following year minesweeping operations were placed under the HMS *Epping* base at Parkeston.³⁴

At the beginning of the war there were only three fleet minesweepers and four 'M/S' trawlers at Harwich. Two destroyer flotillas, the 22nd and 23rd, were formed at the end of October 1939 but, with the reallocation of ships soon reducing the Harwich Force to only four vessels, the 1st Destroyer Flotilla was formed by the end of the following month.³⁵ Also in November, the 3rd Submarine Flotilla was moved from Malta to Harwich, later followed by

the French 10th Submarine Flotilla.³⁶ The 1st Corvette Flotilla was based at Harwich from January 1940 and was mainly responsible for convoy escort and rescue work.³⁷ Harwich destroyers and submarines played a role in the attempt to evacuate some of the Dutch Army when the Low Countries were overrun by German forces in May 1940.³⁸ In addition, Harwich was the reception port for the evacuated Dutch royal family, ministers and diplomats, as well as up to 200 Dutch and Belgian refugees.³⁹ Also in May, the 3rd and 10th Submarine Flotillas were moved to Rosyth (Scotland) with Harwich retained as an advanced submarine base for L and H Class submarines.⁴⁰ Between 28 May and 1 June the evacuation of the Allied Forces from Dunkirk (France) in a rescue action codenamed Operation Dynamo involved some 50 naval vessels from Harwich and paddlesteamers of Harwich's 12th Minesweeping Flotilla. In total, 6,900 troops landed at Harwich having been evacuated.⁴¹ In June the 16th and 18th Destroyer Flotillas arrived at Harwich, with the former becoming the mainstay destroyer force for the East Coast and numbering 28 vessels at the end of 1944.⁴² Harwich's minesweeping force, which was supplemented by fishing vessels and paddlesteamers, played an essential role in keeping open East Coast shipping lanes for convoy ships.⁴³

On 5 June 1944 it was reported that 'never had the harbour been so full' as 64 major landing craft and ships escorted by four destroyers and four corvettes, three trawlers, seven minelayers and many minesweepers departed for the D-Day landings in Normandy (France) under Operation Neptune.⁴⁴

Army units The 10th (Lanarkshire) Battalion of the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) stayed at Dovercourt from early in the war until 1941.⁴⁵ In early 1942 armed forces defending Harwich included the 96th Field Regiment; 5th Battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (DCLI); 'B' Flight 928 (Balloon) Squadron; 281, 282 and 283 Coast Batteries; 292 Anti-Tank Battery and 121 Light Anti-Aircraft Battery.⁴⁶ The Czechoslovak Independent Brigade was stationed at Dovercourt between February and September 1943.⁴⁷ There was also a Dutch Brigade present in the same year.⁴⁸

By mid 1940 the threat of invasion was considered so grave that Colonel Lord Glenusk, the commanding officer of the locally based troops, stated at a meeting of the borough's war emergency committee that he had been given instructions to hold Harwich 'to the last man'.⁴⁹ As a result of the meeting a local Home Guard (initially called the Local Defence Volunteers (LDV)) was formed.⁵⁰ The unit was known as the 9th Essex Battalion Home Guard, No. 1 Platoon, with the specialist 13th Essex (35th GPO) Battalion Home Guard, No. 3 Platoon, covering Clacton, Harwich and Manningtree, and 211 (101 Essex Home Guard) Rocket Anti-Aircraft Battery having its practice camp at Dovercourt.⁵¹ The Harwich Flight of the Air Training Corps (ATC) was launched in 1942 and had some 80 cadets enrolled by early 1943.⁵²

REQUISITIONING

The entirety of Parkeston Quay was requisitioned by the Admiralty together with office accommodation, storage space and living accommodation for 70 ratings. Other properties commandeered for naval use included two houses in Parkeston, a house in Dovercourt as a residence for the FOIC, 17 houses in Cliff Road, the Cliff Hotel, and Elco Café (all Dovercourt) as the Women's Royal Naval Service (WRNS) headquarters, and the Great Eastern Hotel in Harwich.⁵³ In September 1939 the Low Road playing fields in Dovercourt

were also requisitioned.⁵⁴ In 1940 the military and Air Ministry requisitioned many further properties and land in Dovercourt including the beach and seafront along Marine Parade to erect defences,⁵⁵ the bathing pool,⁵⁶ part of Cliffe Park,⁵⁷ part of the Isolation Hospital grounds,⁵⁸ several schools,⁵⁹ and The Grange for use as a military hospital.⁶⁰ At Harwich in the same year Harwich Green,⁶¹ Esplanade Boys' School,⁶² Fountain Mission Hall and School,⁶³ several houses in Harbour Crescent,⁶⁴ and the ground floor of the former Ordnance Buildings were all commandeered.⁶⁵ Most of the former Royal Naval Yard at Harwich was requisitioned for berthing rescue and salvage tugs. The train-ferry berths and the east side of Trinity (or Continental) Pier were used by the Salvage and Rescue Tugs Department and the Examination Service of the Naval Control Service.⁶⁶ In 1941 among further properties commandeered was the Redoubt which was subsequently used as a military prison.⁶⁷

FIXED DEFENCES

Beacon Hill Fort and Landguard Fort (Suff.) formed the main defences guarding the Orwell estuary. Beacon Hill Fort was upgraded in 1940 with the addition of the twin quick firing six-pounder 10 cwt Mark 2/1 gun turret of the Cornwallis Battery.⁶⁸ Further additions in 1941 included a casemated emplacement for two six-inch Mark VII guns, a Battery Observation Post (BOP) and a Radio Direction Finding (RDF), or radar, tower.⁶⁹ The Angel Gate Battery was rebuilt, protected by two quick firing 12-pounder 12 cwt Mark II guns and another BOP.⁷⁰ In total, two 9.2-inch, six 6-inch, two 12-pounder and three 6-pounder guns protected Harwich by November 1940.⁷¹ A network of balloon barrages defended the coast between Felixstowe (Suff.) and Dovercourt from November 1939.⁷² Early in the following year the number of balloon barrage locations was increased to 24 with six land sites on the Harwich side, including to cover Parkeston Quay, and ten barge sites in the harbour.⁷³ A boom defence comprising six sunken hurdles and netting positioned across the estuary in 1940 protected Harwich harbour blocking access to U-boats and other vessels.⁷⁴ The Roughs and Sunk Head Forts were placed in position some ten miles off the coast of Harwich in 1942 as part of the series of Maunsell sea forts in the river Thames estuary.⁷⁵

The Stanier Line was constructed in 1940 to defend the area around Harwich and Dovercourt, comprising over 800 concrete anti-tank blocks, pillboxes (some with 75mm guns sent from the United States), gun emplacements and anti-tank ditches, which ran around the coastline as far as Ramsey Creek. There was also a road barrier at All Saints' church, Dovercourt, and a cable barrier along the railway line to block tank access into Parkeston. Anti-aircraft 3.7-inch 'Ack-Ack' guns were placed on the coast at Dovercourt and at various locations in Harwich.⁷⁶ In 1942 the entrance to the quay at Harwich was closed with barriers erected at George Street, King's Quay Street and Eastgate Street.⁷⁷

REMOVAL OF THE DEFENCES AND DE-REQUISITIONING

There were frequent complaints from local people and organisations about the inconvenience caused by the defences and the continuing requisition of properties. For example, it took a drawn-out process of negotiation with the War Department by Harwich's school education committee to get Upper and Lower Dovercourt Infants' Schools de-requisitioned in late 1944.⁷⁸ The issue of compensation to the borough for the requisitioning of Dovercourt Beach was finally settled with a payment of £1,607 15s. 7d. from the War Department.⁷⁹ The process of de-requisitioning the beach and the seafront along Marine Parade began from late 1944.⁸⁰ At around the same time, 17 houses and the balloon barrage site at the former

Isolation Hospital in Dovercourt were similarly released.⁸¹ Further de-requisitioning occurred early in 1945 including a shop and flat at 90 High Street, Dovercourt, which was immediately taken over by the Ministry of Works as a food office.⁸² Other areas remained under military control at the end of the war, such as part of Cliffe Park.⁸³

HARWICH, DOVERCOURT AND PARKESTON AT WAR

COASTAL BATTLE

Harwich played a central role in the naval battle of the East Coast particularly early in the war when German destroyers laid magnetic mines in the Sunk area.⁸⁴ In November 1939 the waters off Harwich witnessed six sinkings of Allied and neutral vessels in five days.⁸⁵ These included the Dutch liner *Simon Bolivar* carrying 265 passengers and 132 crew which struck a mine on 18 November resulting in the death of c.80 people; 17 survivors were taken to the Harwich and District Hospital and others accommodated in the town.⁸⁶ Three days later the Japanese liner *Terukuni Maru* went down in similar circumstances, but the entire crew of 182 and 27 passengers were rescued.⁸⁷ On 21 November the Harwich-based destroyer HMS *Gipsy* hit a mine due to human error and was 'blown completely in half'. There were 31 deaths among the crew of 150, including the commanding officer, Lieutenant Commander Nigel John Crossley, who died a few days later.⁸⁸

One of Harwich's main roles was as a destination for casualties after rescue operations. One of the worst losses the Royal Navy suffered was on 19 January 1940 when HMS *Grenville* of the First Destroyer Flotilla at Harwich was sunk by a mine in the North Sea with the loss of 77 lives. The 122 surviving crew were rescued and returned to Harwich.⁸⁹ In February 1942 HMS *Worcester* was shelled multiple times in an action off the Hook of Holland. There were 23 dead or missing while nearly 1,000 seamen from the other four destroyers in the operation disembarked at Parkeston Quay to convey the 45 wounded victims to the military hospital at Shotley (Suff.) and to re-arm their ships.⁹⁰

AIR ATTACKS AND WAR DAMAGE

Among several combat incidents in the local area in mid 1940 was the shooting down of a German Dornier bomber.⁹¹ The first aerial attack causing serious destruction occurred on 3 September when some 11 HE bombs and 53 incendiary bombs were dropped on Dovercourt and Parkeston damaging some 79 houses, Parkeston railway station, Harwich County High School and the Cliff Pavilion.⁹² The Italian air force carried out a series of raids from October to December, including on the night of 21–22 December when a bomb landed on the junction of Market Street and King's Head Street, Harwich, causing severe damage to property and a civilian casualty to lose a leg.⁹³

More devastating raids occurred in 1941. During the night of 25–26 February, 20 HE bombs and some 15 incendiary bombs were dropped in the Harwich area leading to five deaths and serious injuries to other civilians, as well as badly damaging some 100 properties.⁹⁴ On 9 April a bomb dropped on Trinity Pier in Harwich harbour sank the minesweeper HMS *Marmion*, the examination drifter *D'Arcy Cooper* and the War Department vessel *Falcon*, resulting in the deaths of ten forces personnel.⁹⁵ A week later two civilians died when HE bombs landed on two houses in Una Road, Parkeston.⁹⁶ A raid on 3 May resulted in the death of three residents at Cliff Road, Dovercourt, and another at Adelaide Street, Parkeston.⁹⁷

Another attack on 9 May 1941 caused significant damage in Harwich and Dovercourt including completely destroying the factory of C. H. Bernard & Sons Ltd in Harwich and rendering 20 people homeless.⁹⁸ Then on the night of 16–17 May widespread bombing in Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston left another two civilians dead. Among the many wrecked properties were the former Ordnance Buildings and the Salvation Army citadel.⁹⁹ A further three residents, two living in Dovercourt and one from Parkeston, died as a result of enemy action in May.¹⁰⁰

From 1942 the danger came mostly from enemy machine gun fire, such as in January 1943 when an attack caused slight damage to the police station and the Regal Cinema.¹⁰¹ The introduction of the ‘tip and run’ raiders in 1943 caused alarm, but Harwich was largely unscathed. Eyewitness accounts from April 1943 recorded that people on the coast, including at Harwich, ‘cheered and clapped’ when an enemy bomber crashed into the sea after an aerial duel.¹⁰² The two worst incidents occurred as a result of accidents: on 20 November two Dovercourt men lost their lives after a detonation at the explosives factory at Bramble Island, Great Oakley,¹⁰³ and on 13 December there was extensive damage to residential and business premises when a British sea mine on the foreshore outside the Harwich shipyard exploded.¹⁰⁴

Aerial bombings continued into 1944, an example being the incendiary bomb dropped on Dovercourt Hall and Warner’s holiday camp in February 1944 causing minor damage and resulting in one military casualty.¹⁰⁵ One month later two 15-year-old boys died from injuries inflicted when a mine exploded on the beach at Dovercourt.¹⁰⁶ The V1 rocket assaults started in June 1944 and though the Harwich area was attacked on numerous occasions damage to property was usually described as ‘slight’ or ‘superficial’.¹⁰⁷ Destruction also continued to occur by other means: for example, some 66 houses sustained slight damage when a mine at the entrance to the harbour exploded in September 1944.¹⁰⁸

ECONOMIC LIFE DURING WARTIME

PORTS OF HARWICH AND PARKESTON

On 2 September 1939, the day before the declaration of war, Parkeston Quay was closed on the orders of the Admiralty and stayed shut for the duration of the war. Train Ferries No. 1 and 2, which operated out of Harwich, were used to carry ambulance trains and from October 1939 all three train ferries were employed transporting military vehicles, railway wagons equipped with guns and other war material between Harwich and Calais (France). In January 1940 some cargo services formerly operating out of Parkeston continued under the Ministry of Shipping from Ipswich (Suff.).¹⁰⁹ In May the train-ferry service from Harwich to Calais ceased and three months later the Harwich-Shotley motor boat passenger service was discontinued and the Harwich-Felixstowe service reduced to once a day.¹¹⁰

The first services to resume using Parkeston for passengers were ships transferring troops, displaced persons and returning prisoners of war which operated irregularly from January 1945 for a short time. Further troop ships operated out of Parkeston from 31 July.¹¹¹ A transit camp, partly built by German prisoners of war and known as No. 740, was constructed on requisitioned land in Upper Dovercourt, initially for some 4,000 troops awaiting transfer overseas.¹¹² There were two prisoner of war camps at Dovercourt, known as Shaftesbury 670b and Shaftesbury 680, as the site was formerly the Shaftesbury Society’s holiday camp.¹¹³

SEASIDE ECONOMY

In common with other local resorts, the seaside economy was severely affected from early in the war. Council delegates from Harwich and Dovercourt were among those who met at a conference in Norwich (Norf.) in October 1939 to discuss the deleterious effects on East Coast resorts.¹¹⁴

The 1940 season was strictly limited by wartime restrictions but, as at other East Anglian resorts, an attempt was made to continue.¹¹⁵ The council agreed to let out six refreshment kiosks and huts on the promenade and beach plus the Bazaar on Dovercourt seafront. However, since the promenade and beach area was requisitioned in May and a ban on private cars entering the defence area imposed in July, it is unlikely that these facilities saw much use.¹¹⁶ During the summer restricted use was made of the beach chalets and spa cabins, but the boating lake licence was cancelled due to the requisitioning of the site.¹¹⁷

The ban on visits to the coastal strip of the Eastern Region to deter potential holidaymakers was subsequently re-imposed during the spring and summer months of 1941 and 1942.¹¹⁸ There were numerous cases of visitors entering the borough illegally in those two years, some travelling from as far afield as Hertfordshire and Leicestershire on personal visits.¹¹⁹ The following year limited holiday facilities were made available again with the opening up of a short stretch of beach at Dovercourt for bathing and picnicking over the summer.¹²⁰ For the 1944 season the beach area allowed for bathing was extended westward as far as the Dovercourt lighthouses.¹²¹ With some of the travel restrictions lifted, visitors came from as far as the London area on the August Bank Holiday and Dovercourt was reported as presenting 'quite a crowded' appearance.¹²²

The first full opening up of the resort came over the Easter Bank Holiday in April 1945.¹²³ Something of a return to normality was apparent by the week of the August Bank Holiday when it was reported that crowds of visitors made for 'scenes reminiscent of pre-war summer seasons' and there was less long-term damage to the resort as compared to Clacton.¹²⁴

WARTIME ECONOMY

Agriculture and the food supply One of the first wartime measures taken by the council in September 1939 was the appointment of a food control committee and subsequently an office was opened at the town clerk's premises at Naval House, Harwich.¹²⁵ The need for increased food production quickly became apparent, with county War Agricultural Executive Committees ('War Ags') formed to advise and assist the localities.¹²⁶ The council authorised the conversion of the gardens at The Grange in Dovercourt into allotments in 1939,¹²⁷ and the following year further land was made available for cultivation at Tower Hill, Harwich, and Cliffe Park, Dovercourt.¹²⁸ Meanwhile, in late 1940 the Harwich and Dovercourt Allotment Holders' and Plot Holders' Association launched a local initiative as part of the national 'Dig for Victory' campaign which the council joined early the following year.¹²⁹

In 1941 the Essex 'War Ag' committee took possession of available borough council land at Brookman's farm, Dovercourt, excluding its orchards, and 9 a. of land at Marsh Lane, also in Dovercourt.¹³⁰ Commercial farms with over 10 a. of cropland and grasses still operating in Dovercourt at this time were Vicarage farm (186½ a.), High House farm (115 a.), Pound farm

(69 a.), The Vines (30a.) and Greenfield farm (23 a. under three tenants).¹³¹ In 1942 some 3 a. at Dunn's Meadow in Manor Lane, Dovercourt, was purchased by compulsory order by the council whilst a lease on 2 a. of additional land in Fronks Road was agreed.¹³²

A British Restaurant opened at St Nicholas' Hall at Bathside, Harwich, in April 1942, having been in preparation for over a year.¹³³ A temporary emergency feeding station was provided in Parkeston by Tendring Rural District Council from mid 1942.¹³⁴

Industry and manufacturing The construction industry was badly affected by wartime economic conditions. Some house-building firms such as Percy H. Hawkins and Edward Saunders & Son turned to the building of air raid shelters.¹³⁵ An ARP sewage pumping station was completed in Harwich in July 1944.¹³⁶ The war boosted some local companies, as in the case of McBrides Ltd which was the main contractor for engine repairs on naval vessels at its Albemarle Street, Harwich, workshop.¹³⁷

The naval outfitting company of C. H. Bernard & Sons Ltd played an important role in the war effort. Indeed, an extension of its premises in Main Road, Harwich, and the installation of new equipment was undertaken in 1940, at which time it had 250 employees.¹³⁸ After an air raid the following year, the factory was rebuilt.¹³⁹ Despite this, regular recruitment of additional personnel took place up to 1942, with skilled female workers particularly in demand.¹⁴⁰

Banking, service industries and retailing A number of businesses ceased trading temporarily or closed permanently from 1940 as inhabitants evacuated and the economy contracted. The Harwich branch of Barclays Bank Ltd closed in June 1940.¹⁴¹ Among the retail outlets to shut down in Dovercourt from that summer were Leonard Barfield's butcher's shop and the drapers Edward Spurge & Son.¹⁴² Leggett, Dyer and Co. Ltd which had its garage at Kingsway, Dovercourt, went into liquidation later in the year.¹⁴³

The following two years saw more businesses ceasing, the butchery trade being particularly hard-hit: the Co-operative Society closed its shop in Harwich in September 1941 to concentrate on its Dovercourt operations and the following year William Sedgwick shut his shop in Upper Dovercourt.¹⁴⁴ Service industries were more likely to manage the wartime conditions: the Post Office at Dovercourt took on some 40 additional staff including female labour for the first time since the First World War.¹⁴⁵ Despite some decline in business, the only public house to cease trading was the Foresters Arms in Harwich, which closed in 1942 for the rest of the war; the influx of service personnel presumably helped the industry survive.¹⁴⁶

RATIONING AND THE BLACK MARKET

Rationing Fuel for heating and lighting was one of the first commodities to be rationed by central government with the introduction of licensing for coal and coke retailers and industrial gas and electricity consumers.¹⁴⁷ Fears that there was insufficient fuel supplies for the winter of 1941–2 led to the council establishing a coal dump of some 600 tons at Harwich quay and the creation of an emergency reserve of wood for domestic use.¹⁴⁸ Arrangements were later made for the retailing of log wood from the Harwich premises of Mr Garnett.¹⁴⁹ The local situation became particularly acute in early 1944 when more stringent restrictions on the delivery of coal were imposed.¹⁵⁰

Food rationing was introduced in January 1940, ration cards having been distributed locally in November 1939.¹⁵¹ Clothing was rationed from mid 1941, followed by soap from early 1942.¹⁵² Rationalisation imposed by the Ministry of Food meant that by May 1942 some four-fifths of milk consumed locally was being distributed by only two companies, Direct Dairies and the Co-operative Society.¹⁵³ Petrol was particularly scarce and with the discontinuance of basic rations in 1942 coupons were only issued when the journeys could be justified and a system of car pooling was also introduced.¹⁵⁴ These restrictions forced the severe reduction in public road transport services in the Eastern Region by November.¹⁵⁵

Black market A local black market was first reported in 1941 when the *Harwich and Dovercourt Standard* questioned the morality of its existence in the distribution of food.¹⁵⁶ The food control committee oversaw cases where food regulations were not adhered to, such as a claim in 1941 that ungraded eggs were being sold locally.¹⁵⁷ Illegal trading in cigarettes and tobacco was particularly prevalent, with one local case in 1944 involving a civilian employed by the Admiralty, leading to a fine of over £133 for the possession of uncustomed stock.¹⁵⁸

Reported cases of subverting the rationing system were relatively rare. Dovercourt lorry driver, Horace Starling, was found guilty of obtaining rationed food and unlawfully possessing HM stores in February 1945 and fined £10 with £2 2s. costs.¹⁵⁹ Ernest Gant, of Vicarage farm, Dovercourt, was fined £21 for selling milk beyond the permitted quantity in March.¹⁶⁰ Two months later, three Harwich residents were fined 5s. each for transferring a clothing coupons book to a fourth defendant (who was under the age of criminal responsibility).¹⁶¹

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

POLITICAL ACTIVITY

At the start of the war local municipal elections were deferred indefinitely and a system of co-option introduced.¹⁶² Many local political parties continued to operate though most turned their attention to aiding the war effort. For example, the women's section of the Harwich and District Labour Party and the Harwich and Dovercourt Women's Conservative Association helped supply 'comforts' to the troops. Indeed, the latter organisation was explicit in stating that '[w]ar is not the time for political propaganda'.¹⁶³

National elections were also shelved but by 1944, with the prospect of the end of the war, new political groups emerged. The Harwich branch of the Young Communist League was operating by February and the parent party held its first local meetings in July.¹⁶⁴ A Harwich branch of the Common Wealth Party was formed late in the year.¹⁶⁵ Nonetheless, in a two-way contest in the general election in July 1945 the incumbent National Liberal representative, Sir Stanley Holmes, was returned on a reduced majority of 3,385 votes in the Harwich division against alderman Joseph Hewett, the Labour candidate.¹⁶⁶

THE LOCAL COUNCIL

Committees Upon the outbreak of war in September 1939, a war emergency committee was established. The main body of the council met in camera as the council-in-committee to

make certain decisions leading to Councillor John Elliott refusing to attend ‘secret’ meetings.¹⁶⁷ Questions over secrecy rumbled on in the local press in the following two years: a *Harwich and Dovercourt Standard* editorial in 1942 described democratic local government as a ‘farce’.¹⁶⁸

The coastal resorts distress committee evolved into the coastal resorts rehabilitation committee by October 1943.¹⁶⁹ The post-war reconstruction committee was formed in March 1944 superseding the slum clearance and coastal resorts rehabilitation committees.¹⁷⁰ The council agreed in December that all planning decisions would be delegated to two committees (the other apparently being the amusements, publicity, sea wall and beach committee). Edward Auston was the only council member to vote against this and the dispute came to national attention when the *Daily Mirror* was highly critical of the breakdown of democracy.¹⁷¹

Local government structure Central government plans to weaken the autonomy of their local counterparts mostly met with stiff resistance from the council. In 1942 Councillor John P. Benstead described the plans as a ‘Nazi system’, while the following year Councillor Thomas H. F. Bernard decried a resolution from two Labour members backing the plans, describing it as ‘dictatorship in its vilest and most dastardly form’.¹⁷² In 1944 the council opposed plans to nationalise certain services, such as education and public health, and the following year such reorganisation of local government was described as ‘pure dictatorship’ by Bernard.¹⁷³

Finances Council revenues were hard-hit by lower rate incomes consequent upon the evacuation of many inhabitants from mid 1940. By early 1941 the borough accountant reported that there was a deficit of £7,384 and an overdraft of £10,000 was negotiated with Lloyds Bank Ltd, exclusive of the Dovercourt Sports Club overdraft and other mortgage loans.¹⁷⁴ Income received from the Ministry of Health in 1941 amounted to £9,000, of which only two thirds (later adjusted to three quarters) took the form of a grant. By 1943 this figure had increased to £12,100, but eventually it was decided that, with minor exceptions, none of this money would be repayable.¹⁷⁵

HOUSING AND RECONSTRUCTION

As in other local resorts, especially Clacton, post-war reconstruction and housing became an important issue.¹⁷⁶ In the borough a total of 46 properties were demolished or due for demolition at the end of the war, with a further 109 premises seriously damaged and 1,968 slightly damaged.¹⁷⁷ A list of important historic buildings to preserve was drawn up by the Ministry of Works and Buildings in 1943 including both parish churches, several properties in Church Street, Harwich, such as the Guildhall and Three Cups Hotel, the old Royal Naval Yard treadwheel crane, the Royal Oak Inn in Market Street, and other premises in King’s Head Street such as the Duke of Norfolk Inn.¹⁷⁸

In June 1944 a meeting with Sir William Jowitt, Minister without Portfolio, took place in Harwich to lobby for the ‘early’ reinstatement of those parts of Harwich and Dovercourt within the military defence area and to assist the rejuvenation of the ports of Harwich and Parkeston, and the seaside resort infrastructure.¹⁷⁹ Also in that year freehold land in King George’s Avenue, Dovercourt, was purchased for £2,250 from the LNER for the construction of 36 council houses, although the work did not commence until after the war.¹⁸⁰ Other

housing projects approved by the end of the war were developments at Parkeston Road, Dovercourt, and at Upper Dovercourt.¹⁸¹

Barbed wire and other obstacles obstructing access to part of Dovercourt Beach were removed in early 1945. Various measures were taken by the council to rehabilitate the seafront at Dovercourt and Harwich including the repair of the Cliff Pavilion and two kiosks, making safe existing steps and walls and erecting a new concrete path, and the repair of beach huts.¹⁸² The seafront at Harwich and parts of the Dovercourt foreshore were finally cleared of barbed wire, scaffolding, concrete and brick pillboxes, machine gun emplacements and tank stops in the autumn as part of a contract for the removal of defence works costing almost £6,500.¹⁸³

THE IMPACT OF WAR

CIVILIAN MORALE

The impact of the war on the local community was immediate as a blackout was imposed and identity cards were introduced, but the mayor was reported to be ‘delighted’ at the public response to the lighting restrictions.¹⁸⁴ The air raids that took place from 1940 tested civilian morale, but fewer deaths (16 civilians) were recorded than at nearby Colchester (54 in total) and Ipswich (73 in total), and there was far less devastation than at Great Yarmouth (Norf.), Lowestoft (Suff.) and Norwich.¹⁸⁵ In Harwich, intelligence reports in May stated that air activity had ‘no effect on [the] population who are used to it’.¹⁸⁶ However, in one rare case the fear of being bombed resulted in a Dovercourt tradesman taking his own life.¹⁸⁷ The more intense raids of 1941 brought the first deaths though a contemporary ARP report from the raid of 25–26 February made a point of stating that morale was ‘good’.¹⁸⁸ Shortly afterwards the vicar of Dovercourt, Revd Herbert P. Statham, commented in the parish magazine that the crisis was bringing ‘closer comradeship’.¹⁸⁹ Indeed, many civilians reacted spiritedly during raids as in the case of the bombing of Warner’s holiday camp in 1944, when dancers formed volunteer parties to aid casualties.¹⁹⁰

The *Harwich and Dovercourt Standard* regularly carried reports of the fate of local men in the forces overseas. Sometimes the whereabouts of soldiers remained unknown and this was particularly the case after the fall of Singapore in February 1942. One such prisoner was Frederick Brittain, who was among the first local men to be released in the Far East in March 1945.¹⁹¹ The formation of a Harwich and district branch of the Prisoners of War Next-of-Kin Guild of Friends was one local response to support relatives.¹⁹²

In 1943 the morality of certain war methods was debated in the local press, with Revd Statham questioning the Allied bombing policy and Councillors Bernard and Auston, among others, defending the necessity.¹⁹³ The full horror of war was brought home in 1945 in a letter to his parents from a local soldier who was present at the liberation of a concentration camp in Germany, describing the ‘skeletons just covered with skin’ as a ‘sickening sight’.¹⁹⁴

A number of local men successfully registered as conscientious objectors at the East Anglian tribunal in Cambridge, including in 1940 Methodist preacher, William Barker, and Plymouth Brethren member, John Carter, both from Dovercourt.¹⁹⁵

SAVINGS AND SALVAGE CAMPAIGNS

The war effort was aided by savings and salvage campaigns conducted by local authorities, charities and individuals. Fundraising often took the form of flag days and house-to-house collections but also more novel endeavours. These included the sale of makeshift toys made by the CD rescue parties close to the Christmases of both 1942 and 1943 and an exhibition of model warships and aircraft staged by the boys of Hill School, Dovercourt, in 1943.¹⁹⁶ The WVS was heavily involved in fundraising and also contributed by repairing and knitting clothing for the armed forces overseas.¹⁹⁷

More formal campaigns were also organised such as the formation of the Harwich National Savings Committee which in a seven-month period in 1940 garnered a total of £94,565 in contributions, mostly through Post Office Savings Bank deposits. ‘Good progress’ was being made by mid 1941 on the aim to establish savings groups in each street of the borough whilst a month-long membership drive by the schools’ committee saw the number of members reach 948 in November 1942. By early 1943 there were 2,668 members of 67 savings groups in the borough.¹⁹⁸ Local fundraising efforts, as part of the National Savings campaigns, were particularly concentrated into staging annual week-long drives which involved putting on entertainments and sports events. The most successful of these in terms of money raised was the ‘Salute the Soldier Week’ of 1944 which yielded almost £91,000 (including from activities at Parkeston, organised by the Tendring Hundred savings committee).¹⁹⁹

The first salvage campaigns were launched by the council in 1940 as part of a national effort to save resources.²⁰⁰ Requisitioning of iron railings was carried out in 1941–2, including at church buildings and at Cliffe Park and Edward Saunders & Son’s Hill Crest Works in Dovercourt.²⁰¹ Vigorous efforts were made to collect waste paper and books in particular: two Harwich schoolboys were congratulated in 1942 for collecting 58 barrow-loads from local households, while 30,776 of the 39,137 books collected during the ‘Book Recovery Drive’ of 1943 went for salvage.²⁰² In spite of this and the announcement in early 1944 that the borough had collected 488 tons of salvage valued at £1,950 in the previous four years, the Ministry of Supply local target was still not met.²⁰³

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Some form of musical entertainment continued throughout the war. In the early months participants were exhorted to ‘Bring Gas Masks’ to dances.²⁰⁴ Military band concerts were held in most weeks from December 1939 to March 1940.²⁰⁵ From mid 1941 George Palmer and his band entertained at St Augustine’s church hall, Dovercourt, every week.²⁰⁶ For the summer of 1943 the council mandated that dancing could take place every Wednesday on the garden ground in Barrack Lane, Harwich, and this was repeated the following year.²⁰⁷ The cinema was another source of entertainment and from mid 1940 Sunday showings were permitted, with only limited opposition among councillors and local clergy and ministers.²⁰⁸ Occasionally plays and concerts were performed: particularly poignant were the performances of Handel’s *Messiah* at St Augustine’s church in January 1943 and March 1945.²⁰⁹

Sports activities were immediately impacted from the first week of the war, with Harwich and Parkeston FC closing, but the Parkeston Railway club chose to carry on playing football and, from 1941, cricket.²¹⁰ The Royal Harwich Yacht Club ceased holding its annual regatta in 1940, though other clubs such as the Dovercourt Bowls Club continued as normal.²¹¹ New

clubs were formed such as Harwich ARP FC with the aim of raising funds for the war effort.²¹² Services sporting events proved popular as when some 2,000 spectators saw the Army beat the Royal Navy 4-1 at football on Easter Monday 1940.²¹³

Some groups persevered after war broke out such as the Dovercourt and District Philatelic Society and the Workers' Educational Association.²¹⁴ The freemasons of the Hanslip Ward Lodge and the Good Hope and Captain Fryatt amalgamated lodge of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes continued to meet.²¹⁵ The Loyal Excelsior Lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows removed to Ipswich in 1941 until almost the end of the war.²¹⁶ With the support of the borough council, the Essex Education Committee opened the Harwich Youth Centre at Hill Girls' School in Dovercourt in May 1942.²¹⁷

Several social clubs for defence volunteers were started, including for the ARP, the air raid wardens and the fire-fighting forces.²¹⁸ Armed forces personnel also established their own groups: for example, the Harwich Flight of the ATC held its first social event in November 1942 and the Harwich Forces Music Club held events the following year.²¹⁹

RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE ARMED FORCES

The presence of naval and military personnel was well received from the early stages of the war. Voluntary efforts were made to provide for their needs when not on duty: Dovercourt Wesleyan Methodist Church and the vicar of Dovercourt, Revd Statham, established canteens in schoolroom and church hall premises respectively, while the Mothers' Union ran its own canteen in Lee Road, Dovercourt.²²⁰ Local women socialising with forces personnel was common, resulting in at least two cases of marriage at the end of the war.²²¹ However, there were also two cases of rape brought against armed forces personnel; each led to an acquittal, in one case the defendant being bound over for three years on the reduced charge of indecent assault.²²²

The council generally enjoyed good relations with the military. In the case of the Czechoslovak Independent Brigade, a letter of farewell was received from the commanding officer when the brigade departed in 1943.²²³ The only sources of contention involved the length of time certain properties were requisitioned and damage to roads by military vehicles.²²⁴

Criminal activity among armed forces personnel was mostly of a petty nature, often involving theft or damage to property. It could, however, be dealt with severely as in the case of a young Czechoslovakian soldier who was jailed for 12 months on three charges of housebreaking and theft in 1943, having also absconded from jail.²²⁵ There were several cases of assault, such as in two separate dance hall incidents in Dovercourt in 1943 which involved the police being attacked by naval ratings.²²⁶ There were also three serious incidents involving alleged indecent or common assaults by forces personnel against minors between the ages of six and ten years.²²⁷

EDUCATION AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

At the start of the war all state schools in the borough and Parkeston were closed while shelters were constructed in the grounds, though some private schools remained open such as the Dovercourt College for Boys.²²⁸ Most schools re-opened by October 1939 and St Joseph's

Catholic School, Harwich, and the Convent School, Dovercourt, had done so by the following January.²²⁹ The majority of schoolchildren were evacuated in 1940 though it was reported that almost 900 children of school age were still in the borough in November. Subsequently, numbers fluctuated as the figure was 667 when some schools in the borough re-opened the following January, rising to 745 in early March and 774 by May.²³⁰ St Joseph's Catholic School was used as a rest and recreation room by the armed forces from July 1940 and then, after being badly damaged in an air raid in 1941, remained closed until the end of the war.²³¹

Instances of juvenile delinquency were reported from the middle of the war, usually involving petty theft. For example, two sisters were placed on probation for breaking into Main Road School in 1943.²³² Some children were brought before the juvenile court on more than one occasion: on a third appearance in 1944 the father of a 12-year-old Dovercourt boy urged that he be allowed the chance to put his son into naval school.²³³ A similar provision was allowed by the court in the case of a 13-year-old boy charged with breaking into the Cliff Hotel in the same year having already been on probation.²³⁴

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

The church continued to play an important role in times of need. Local churches participated in the first National Day of Prayer in 1940 and several further such observances were carried out during the war, including at St Nicholas' church, Harwich, for 'Battle of Britain' Sunday in both 1943 and 1944.²³⁵ There is evidence of a slight decline in Church of England membership during the war: the electoral church roll for Dovercourt parish fell from 1,117 in 1940 to 933 in 1945.²³⁶

The Catholic Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and most Nonconformist chapels continued to hold services in spite of the difficult conditions. The Salvation Army only vacated its citadel in Harwich for a few months in 1941 following air raid damage.²³⁷ However, the Congregational Church in Harwich closed altogether after 1940 and its premises in George Street were later converted into a workshop.²³⁸

PEACE CELEBRATIONS AND COMMEMORATION

Before the war ended the council made arrangements for a Book of Remembrance to be prepared and placed in the Guildhall alongside a memorial plaque.²³⁹ V-E Day was celebrated on 8 May 1945 with flags and bonfires. On Dovercourt seafront George Palmer arranged for his dance band to perform on the back of a lorry and 'hundreds' of people had a 'riotous time' all evening. Thanksgiving services were conducted in all the churches, with the main civic event held at St Nicholas' church and an open-air service at Hamilton Park, Parkeston. Numerous street parties were organised in the course of the next week.²⁴⁰

V-J Day celebrations in August were equally euphoric and included bonfires and children's entertainments, as well as dances at the Alexandra Hall and the Cliff Pavilion in Dovercourt.²⁴¹ A special committee was formed in Parkeston to organise peace celebrations and establish a 'Parkeston Welcome Home Fund' for troops, culminating in a 'Grand Gala Week' in September 1945.²⁴²

¹ Above, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston, 1919–39, Local Govt and Politics, Preparations for war.

- ² *HDS*, 2 Sept. 1939.
- ³ *Ibid.* 9 Sept. 1939; S. Brown, *Harwich Ferries: Parkeston Quay under Railway Ownership* (2011), 79.
- ⁴ *HDS*, 9, 23, 30 Sept. 1939.
- ⁵ *VCH Essex* XI, 174–203.
- ⁶ TNA, RG 101/15151; *HDS*, 28 Oct. 1939; *VCH Essex* XI, 174–7.
- ⁷ ERO, D/B 4 M1/1, 11 July 1940; HTC, Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 25 June 1940; *HDS*, 1, 8, 29 June 1940.
- ⁸ *HDS*, 29 June 1940.
- ⁹ HTC, Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 5 Sept. 1940; above, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston, 1919–39, Intro., Pop. and health.
- ¹⁰ *Ibid.* 8 Apr., 15 May 1941.
- ¹¹ *Ibid.* 19 May 1942.
- ¹² *HDS*, 11 Sept. 1943, 23 June 1945.
- ¹³ HTC, 164, evacuation cttee mins, 1 July 1940.
- ¹⁴ Above, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston, 1919–39, Local Govt and Politics, Preparations for war.
- ¹⁵ ERO, C/M 1/38, ARP cttee mins, 21 Nov. 1939, 2 Jan. 1940; D/RT M1/17, 13 Dec. 1939; HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 23 Jan. 1940.
- ¹⁶ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 30 Jan. 1941; *HDS*, 15 Mar. 1941, 28 Mar. 1942, 20 Mar 1943.
- ¹⁷ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 18 Sept., 1 Oct. 1941, 6 Jan. 1942; *HDS*, 25 Jan., 1 Mar. 1941.
- ¹⁸ HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 9 Oct. 1939; war emergency cttee mins, 6 Sept., 12 Oct., 6, 20 Nov. 1939; *HDS*, 16 Sept. 1939; above, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston, 1919–39, Local Govt and Politics, Preparations for war.
- ¹⁹ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 9 Apr. 1940.
- ²⁰ *Ibid.* 6 June 1940, 9 Dec. 1941.
- ²¹ *HDS*, 7 Oct. 1939.
- ²² HTC, Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 5 Sept. 1940; *HDS*, 23 Dec. 1939.
- ²³ HTC, Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 8 Dec. 1942, 23 Mar., 29 June, 14 Sept. 1943; *HDS*, 16 Jan. 1943.
- ²⁴ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 27 Sept. 1939; above, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston, 1919–39, Local Govt and Politics, Preparations for war.
- ²⁵ ERO, D/RT M1/17, national emergency cttee reps of meetings of 19 Feb., 16 May 1940; M1/19, special emergency cttee rep. of meeting of 17 Jan. 1945.
- ²⁶ *HDS*, 31 Aug. 1940.
- ²⁷ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 15 Apr. 1941; *HDS*, 12 Apr. 1941.
- ²⁸ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 23 Apr., 21 May 1940; *HDS*, 22 June 1940; above, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston, 1919–39, Local Govt and Politics, Preparations for war.
- ²⁹ HS, ‘WWII Volume One’ Box, typescript article ‘Fire! Fire! (1940)’.
- ³⁰ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 14, 30 Jan., 6, 27 Feb., 17 Apr., 12 May 1941 (meeting convened by mayor to meet Lord Cranbrook, Deputy Regional Commissioner); *HDS*, 8, 15 Feb., 16 Aug. 1941.
- ³¹ ERO, D/RT M1/17, special emergency cttee rep. of meeting of 17 Apr. 1941; HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 19 Mar. 1941.
- ³² HTC, Harwich Fire Brigade cttee mins, 9 Sept. 1941; war emergency cttee mins, 18 Aug., 2, 18 Sept. 1941.
- ³³ *Ibid.* war emergency cttee mins, 13 Jan. 1943.
- ³⁴ TNA, ADM 199/1454, p. 2; J. P. Foynes, *The Battle of the East Coast 1939–1945: The Sea, Air & Land War from the Humber to the Thames* (1994), 1, 102–03, Appendix A; J. McBurney, ‘HMS Badger’, *Highlight*, no. 102, Winter 1995–6, pp. 16–18.
- ³⁵ TNA, ADM 1/9935; 199/375, ff. 3, 6; 199/1454, pp. 3, 14.
- ³⁶ Foynes, *Battle*, 111, 112.
- ³⁷ TNA, ADM 199/1456, Appendix XIII, sect. 2, p. 1; Foynes, *Battle*, 4.
- ³⁸ Foynes, *Battle*, 21–3.
- ³⁹ R. Douglas Brown, *East Anglia 1940* (1981), 61; M. Gilbert, *Second World War* (1989), 64; HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 23 May 1940; war emergency cttee mins, 10 May 1940; *HDS*, 18 May 1940.
- ⁴⁰ TNA, ADM 199/375, f. 75; 199/1454, pp. 57, 73.
- ⁴¹ *Ibid.* 199/1454, p. 83; Foynes, *Battle*, 26–7; Douglas Brown, *East Anglia 1940*, 66.
- ⁴² Foynes, *Battle*, 30, 217.
- ⁴³ TNA, ADM 199/1456, Appendix XIII, sect. 5; Douglas Brown, *East Anglia 1940*, 36; Foynes, *Battle*, Appendix C; Foynes, ‘Fighting with magnets: Harwich at the centre of the sea war, 1939–40’, *Highlight*, no. 69, Autumn 1987, p. 9.
- ⁴⁴ HTC, 244; Foynes, *Battle*, 214–15; McBurney, ‘Operation Neptune – Force L1’, *Highlight*, no. 96, Summer 1994, pp. 15–16.

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- ⁴⁵ ERO, D/P 174/29/8, 24 Mar. 1941; *HMS*, 19 Sept. 2008.
- ⁴⁶ TNA, WO 199/625, f. 14B and memorandum re defence of Harwich, 20 Jan. 1942 (no f.).
- ⁴⁷ HTC, 165; council-in-cttee mins, 30 Sept. 1943; below, this article, The impact of war, Relationship with the armed forces.
- ⁴⁸ TNA, WO 199/593, f. 26A.
- ⁴⁹ HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 1 June 1940; war emergency cttee mins, 30 May 1940 (meeting of war emergency cttee and Colonel Lord Glenusk and Major Ellis, Welsh Guards).
- ⁵⁰ *Ibid.*
- ⁵¹ P. Finch, *Warmen Courageous: The Story of the Essex Home Guard* (1951), 134, 236, 247–8, 303, 308.
- ⁵² *HDS*, 16 May 1942, 6 Feb. 1943.
- ⁵³ TNA, ADM 199/1456, Appendix XIII, sect. 1, pp. 1, 3; HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 22 June 1940; general purposes cttee mins, 27 Mar. 1940, 27 Aug. 1941, 27 Aug. 1942, 14 Jan. 1943.
- ⁵⁴ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 27 Sept. 1939.
- ⁵⁵ *Ibid.* general purposes cttee mins, 23 May 1940.
- ⁵⁶ *Ibid.* 23 May, 1 Aug. 1940.
- ⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 25 Apr., 20 June 1940, 1 Jan. 1941.
- ⁵⁸ *Ibid.* 25 Apr. 1940, 1 Jan. 1941.
- ⁵⁹ *Ibid.* 29 Oct., 19 Nov. 1940, 16 Jan., 25 June 1941; Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 5 Sept., 15 Oct., 21 Nov. 1940.
- ⁶⁰ *Ibid.* general purposes cttee mins, 23 Feb., 1 Aug. 19 Sept. 1940.
- ⁶¹ *Ibid.* 25 Apr., 23 May 1940.
- ⁶² *Ibid.* Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 5 Sept. 1940.
- ⁶³ *Ibid.* general purposes cttee mins, 19 Sept., 17, 29 Oct., 19 Nov. 1940.
- ⁶⁴ *Ibid.* 19 Sept., 17, 29 Oct., 19 Nov., 12 Dec. 1940, 16 Jan., 5 Feb. 1941.
- ⁶⁵ *Ibid.* 19 Sept. 1940.
- ⁶⁶ Foynes, *Battle*, 98, 103; Foynes, ‘Harwich’s ‘Naval Control Service’’, *Highlight*, no. 72, Summer 1988, pp. 9–12.
- ⁶⁷ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 27 Aug. 1941; P. Kent, *Fortifications of East Anglia* (1988), 90.
- ⁶⁸ TNA, WO 192/211.
- ⁶⁹ *Ibid.* ADM 1/10762; WO 192/212; Foynes, ‘The Harwich Radar Tower: an unusual relic of the Second World War’ (copy in HM, Box 3B); Foynes, ‘The RDF post at Harwich (part 1)’, *Highlight*, no. 169, Autumn 2012, pp. 16–17; Foynes, ‘The RDF station at Harwich (part 2)’, *Highlight*, no. 170, Winter 2012, pp. 18–19; Beacon Hill Fort noticeboard no. 8.
- ⁷⁰ TNA, WO 192/210; Kent, *Fortifications*, 89.
- ⁷¹ Douglas Brown, *East Anglia 1940*, 143.
- ⁷² TNA, AIR 13/110, f. 26A.
- ⁷³ *Ibid.* f. 71A; AIR 16/149, ff. 31A, 48A, 52A.
- ⁷⁴ *Ibid.* ADM 199/1454, p. 60; 199/1805, f. 2; Douglas Brown, *East Anglia 1941* (1986), 26.
- ⁷⁵ TNA, ADM 199/1456, Appendix XIII, sect. 1, pp. 7, 8.
- ⁷⁶ HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 15 Oct. 1941; Kent, *Fortifications*, 88–9, 90; C. Trollope and A. Rutter, ‘Defending Harwich and Dovercourt in WW2’, *Highlight*, no. 100, Summer 1995, pp. 19–20; F. Nash, ‘World War Two survey: the defence of Harwich’, *Essex Archaeology* 13 (1996), 4–5; Nash, ‘World War II defences survey’ in A. Bennett and P. J. Gilman (eds), ‘Archaeology in Essex 1996’, *EAH* 28 (1997), 200; Nash, ‘World War II defences survey’ in A. Bennett (ed.), ‘Work of the ECC Archaeology Sect., 1998’, *EAH* 30 (1998), 206; Nash, ‘Ack-Ack sites of Essex’, *Essex Archaeology* 15 (1998), 4–5; Nash (for Archaeological Advisory Group), ‘World War Two heavy anti-aircraft gun sites in Essex: project rep.: Dec. 1998’ (1998), 28 (copy in ERO, LIB/940.54 NAS2); Nash (for Archaeological Advisory Group), ‘World War Two defences in Essex: interim rep.: June 1998’ (1998), 15 (copy in ERO, LIB/940.54 NAS1).
- ⁷⁷ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 12 Mar., 30 July 1942.
- ⁷⁸ *Ibid.* Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 26 Jan., 23 Mar., 11 May, 14 Sept., 2 Nov. 1943, 1 Aug., 3 Oct., 28 Nov. 1944; war emergency cttee mins, reps of heads of services at meeting of 29 June 1944.
- ⁷⁹ *Ibid.* council-in-cttee mins, 31 Aug. 1944; general purposes cttee mins, 27 Aug. 1942, 5 Aug., 30 Sept., 28 Oct., 16 Dec. 1943, 27 Jan., 23 Nov. 1944.
- ⁸⁰ ERO, D/B 4 M2/1/1, 5 Dec. 1944, 29 Jan. 1945.
- ⁸¹ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 23 Nov., 7 Dec. 1944.
- ⁸² *Ibid.* 1 Feb. 1945.
- ⁸³ *Ibid.* 24 May, 6 Dec. 1945.
- ⁸⁴ Foynes, ‘Fighting with magnets’, p. 7.

⁸⁵ Foynes, *Battle*, 10.

⁸⁶ *HDS*, 25 Nov. 1939; P. Cone, 'The sinking of "Simon Bolivar" off Harwich', *Highlight*, no. 121, Autumn 2000, pp. 14–15; D.E. Johnson, *East Anglia at War 1939–45* (1992), 64, 66–8; H. T. Rozenbroeck, *The Last Voyage of the s.s. "SIMON BOLIVAR"* (n.d.) (copy in Harwich Museum archives).

⁸⁷ TNA, WO 166/1345, 21 Nov. 1939; 166/1718, 21 Nov. 1939; *HDS*, 25 Nov. 1939.

⁸⁸ TNA, ADM 1/22793; 358/4525; WO 166/1345, 21 Nov. 1939; 166/1718, 21 Nov. 1939; *HDS*, 25 Nov., 2 Dec. 1939; Foynes, *Battle*, 10; Foynes, 'Whose fault was the loss of HMS Gipsy? An inquest into the sinking of the Harwich destroyer in 1939' (2006); Johnson, *East Anglia at War*, 65, 68.

⁸⁹ *HDS*, 27 Jan. 1940; Foynes, *Battle*, 19.

⁹⁰ Douglas Brown, *East Anglia 1940*, 66; Foynes, *Battle*, 140, 142, 143; Foynes, 'Harwich's 'Naval Control Service'', p. 11.

⁹¹ Douglas Brown, *East Anglia 1940*, 99.

⁹² ERO, Acc. A5903, Box 1, message bk no. 5, 4 Sept. 1940.

⁹³ *Ibid.* message bk no. 7, 21 Dec. 1940; C/W 1/2/35, 21 Dec. 1940; HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 1 Jan. 1941; *HDS*, 28 Dec. 1940; Foynes, *Battle*, 84–6; Foynes, 'A historical mystery: the Italian bombing of Harwich in 1940', *Highlight*, no. 191, Spring 2018, pp. 10–12.

⁹⁴ ERO, Acc. A5903, Box 1, messages relating to air raid on 25 Feb. 1941; C/W 1/2/25, 26 Feb. 1941; C/W 1/2/35, 25, 26 Feb. 1941; C/W 1/7/9, 25, 26 Feb. 1941; HTC, 166; *HDS*, 1 Mar. 1941.

⁹⁵ TNA, ADM 358/3210, /3851; ERO, Acc. A5903, Box 1, messages relating to air raid on 9 Apr. 1941; Foynes, *Battle*, 89.

⁹⁶ ERO, C/W 1/2/35, 16 Apr. 1941; SRO, GF419/FLS1849/4/4/1/194; HTC, 166.

⁹⁷ ERO, Acc. A5903, Box 1, messages relating to air raid on 3 May 1941; C/W 1/2/35, 5, 6 May 1941; HTC, 166; *HDS*, 10 May 1941.

⁹⁸ ERO, 1/2/35, 9 May 1941; *HDS*, 17 May 1941.

⁹⁹ TNA, HO 199/97; ERO, Acc. A5903, Box 1, messages relating to air raid on 16–17 May 1941; C/W 1/2/35, 16, 17 May 1941; *HDS*, 24 May 1941.

¹⁰⁰ *HDS*, 24, 31 May 1941.

¹⁰¹ ERO, Acc. A5903, Box 1, messages relating to machine gun fire on 19 Oct. 1942; messages relating to machine gun fire from air in High Street and Main Road, Dovercourt on 6 Jan. 1943; C/W 1/2/35, 6 Jan. 1943; HTC, war emergency cttee mins, reps of heads of services at meeting of 13 Jan. 1943; *HDS*, 9 Jan. 1943.

¹⁰² *HDS*, 24 Apr. 1943.

¹⁰³ ERO, C/W 1/2/35, 20 Nov. 1942; HTC, war emergency cttee mins, reps of heads of services at meeting of 2 Dec. 1942; *HDS*, 28 Nov., 5 Dec. 1942.

¹⁰⁴ ERO, Acc. A5903, Box 1, messages relating to explosion of British sea mine outside shipyard, Harwich, on 13 Dec. 1943; C/W 1/2/35, 13 Dec. 1943; HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 16 Dec. 1943; war emergency cttee mins, reps of heads of services at meeting of 23 Dec. 1943; *HDS*, 18 Dec. 1943.

¹⁰⁵ ERO, Acc. A5903, Box 1, messages relating to air raid on Dovercourt Hall and holiday camp on 13 Feb. 1944; C/W 1/2/35, 13 Feb. 1944; *HDS*, 19 Feb. 1944.

¹⁰⁶ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, reps of heads of services at meeting of 16 Mar. 1944; *HDS*, 18 Mar. 1944.

¹⁰⁷ ERO, C/W 1/2/36.

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.* 20, 22 Sept. 1944.

¹⁰⁹ *HDS*, 18 Aug. 1945; Brown, *Harwich Ferries*, 81.

¹¹⁰ *HDS*, 3 Aug. 1940, 18 Aug. 1945; Brown, *Harwich Ferries*, 82.

¹¹¹ Brown, *Harwich Ferries*, 86.

¹¹² ERO, D/B 4 Pb13/1503A–B; HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 18 Jan., 10 May, 7, 18 June 1945; *HDS*, 23 June 1945; Brown, *Harwich Ferries*, 87; M. Osborne, *Defending Essex: The Military Landscape from Prehistory to the Present* (2013), 183.

¹¹³ ERO, Acc. A6671; Osborne, *Defending Essex*, 183.

¹¹⁴ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 27 Sept. 1939; *HDS*, 21 Oct. 1939.

¹¹⁵ Douglas Brown, *East Anglia 1940*, 31–3; *VCH Essex XI*, 188–9.

¹¹⁶ ERO, D/B 4 M2/1/1, 6, 21 Mar. 1940; HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 23 May 1940; *HDS*, 24 Feb., 9 Mar., 13 July 1940; *VCH Essex XI*, 188–9; above, this article, Civil and military defence, Occupation by naval and military units.

¹¹⁷ ERO, D/B 4 M2/1/1, 28 Aug 1940.

¹¹⁸ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 15 Apr. 1942; *HDS*, 2 Aug. 1941, 7 Feb., 11 Apr. 1942; for comparative material on other local resorts see: *VCH Essex XI*, 179, 191–2.

¹¹⁹ *HDS*, 20 June 1942.

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- ¹²⁰ HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 15, 29 Apr., 27 May 1943; general purposes cttee mins, 26 Aug. 1943; *HDS*, 24 Apr. 1943.
- ¹²¹ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 27 July, 17 Aug. 1944.
- ¹²² *HDS*, 12 Aug. 1944.
- ¹²³ *Ibid.* 7 Apr. 1945.
- ¹²⁴ *Ibid.* 4 Aug. 1945; *VCH Essex* XI, 192.
- ¹²⁵ HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 4 Sept., 9 Oct. 1939; war emergency cttee mins, 6 Sept. 1939.
- ¹²⁶ *HDS*, 16 Sept. 1939; P. Wormell, *Essex Farming 1900–2000* (1999), 81–95.
- ¹²⁷ HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 9 Oct. 1939.
- ¹²⁸ *Ibid.* general purposes cttee mins, 12 Dec. 1940.
- ¹²⁹ ERO, D/B 4 M1/1, 9 Jan. 1941; *HDS*, 9 Nov. 1940.
- ¹³⁰ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 20, 27 Feb., 2 Apr., 7 Aug. 1941.
- ¹³¹ TNA, MAF 32/843/395.
- ¹³² ERO, D/B 4 M1/1, 13 Aug. 1942; HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 2 July, 17 Sept., 29 Oct. 1942; general purposes cttee mins, 15 Apr., 4 June 1942.
- ¹³³ ERO, D/B 4 M1/1, 9 Apr. 1942; HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 1 Jan., 16 July, 30 Oct. 1941; war emergency cttee mins, 14, 30 Jan., 6 Mar., 13 Nov. 1941; *HDS*, 15 Nov. 1941, 11, 18 Apr. 1942.
- ¹³⁴ ERO, D/RT M1/18, emergency feeding cttee rep. of meeting of 12 Mar. 1942.
- ¹³⁵ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 6 Sept. 1939, 6 June 1940; above, this article, Civil and military defence, CD.
- ¹³⁶ *Ibid.* general purposes cttee mins, 27 July 1944.
- ¹³⁷ *Ibid.* 29 Apr. 1943; P. J. Cone, *Harwich & Dovercourt in the 20th Century* ([2004]), 182.
- ¹³⁸ ERO, D/B 4 M1/1, 12 Oct. 1939; *HDS*, 3 Feb., 9 Mar. 1940.
- ¹³⁹ ERO, D/B 4 Pb13/1475; HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 28 May 1941; above, this article, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston at war, Air attacks and war damage.
- ¹⁴⁰ E.g. *HDS*, 7, 14 Dec. 1940, 27 Sept., 4 Oct. 1941, 9, 16 May 1942.
- ¹⁴¹ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 25 Apr. 1940.
- ¹⁴² *HDS*, 22, 29 June, 6 July 1940.
- ¹⁴³ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 17 Oct. 1940; *HDS*, 28 Sept., 5, 19 Oct. 1940.
- ¹⁴⁴ ERO, D/Z 176/2/7, 9 Sept. 1941; *HDS*, 3 Jan. 1942.
- ¹⁴⁵ *HDS*, 4 Jan. 1941.
- ¹⁴⁶ *Ibid.* 29 Nov. 1941, 5 Sept. 1942.
- ¹⁴⁷ *Ibid.* 16 Sept. 1939.
- ¹⁴⁸ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 25 Sept., 30 Oct., 18 Dec. 1941.
- ¹⁴⁹ *HDS*, 17 Jan. 1942.
- ¹⁵⁰ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 27 Jan., 4, 17 Feb. 1944.
- ¹⁵¹ *HDS*, 4 Nov. 1939; J. Gardiner, *Wartime Britain 1939–1945* (2004), 139.
- ¹⁵² *HDS*, 16 Aug. 1941, 14 Feb., 25 Apr. 1942; Gardiner, *Wartime Britain*, 487.
- ¹⁵³ *HDS*, 23 May 1942.
- ¹⁵⁴ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 30 June 1942; *HDS*, 7 Feb., 20 June 1942.
- ¹⁵⁵ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 29 Oct. 1942; *HDS*, 24 Oct., 7 Nov. 1942.
- ¹⁵⁶ *HDS*, 18 Oct. 1941; for the comparative situation at other local resorts see: *VCH Essex* IX, 191.
- ¹⁵⁷ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 24 Apr. 1941.
- ¹⁵⁸ *HDS*, 19 Feb. 1944; D. Thomas, *An Underworld at War: Spivs, Deserters, Racketeers & Civilians in the Second World War* (2004), 64–5.
- ¹⁵⁹ *HDS*, 10 Mar. 1945.
- ¹⁶⁰ *Ibid.* 31 Mar. 1945.
- ¹⁶¹ *Ibid.* 2 June 1945.
- ¹⁶² HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 16 Nov. 1939; war emergency cttee mins, 18 Oct. 1939 (adjourned meeting of 17 Oct. 1939); *HDS*, 28 Oct. 1939.
- ¹⁶³ *HDS*, 18 Nov. 1939, 4 May 1940.
- ¹⁶⁴ *Ibid.* 26 Feb., 8 July 1944.
- ¹⁶⁵ *Ibid.* 18 Nov., 30 Dec. 1944.
- ¹⁶⁶ *Ibid.* 28 July 1945; *VCH Essex* IX, 193–4.
- ¹⁶⁷ HTC, council-in-cttee mins, 4 Sept., 2 Nov. 1939; war emergency cttee mins, 6 Sept. 1939; *HDS*, 14 Oct., 11 Nov. 1939.
- ¹⁶⁸ *HDS*, 16 May 1942.
- ¹⁶⁹ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 26 Aug., 28 Oct. 1943.

- ¹⁷⁰ Ibid. 9 Mar. 1944.
- ¹⁷¹ *HDS*, 9, 16 Dec. 1944.
- ¹⁷² HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 30 July 1942, 24 June, 15 July, 5 Aug., 16, 30 Sept., 28 Oct. 1943; *HDS*, 11 July 1942, 13 Nov. 1943.
- ¹⁷³ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 25 May 1944; Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 18 Jan. 1944; *HDS*, 10 Feb. 1945.
- ¹⁷⁴ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 13 Mar., 2 Apr., 28 May 1941.
- ¹⁷⁵ Ibid. 25 Sept. 1941, 28 Oct., 16 Dec. 1943, 30 Mar. 1944, 29 Nov. 1945.
- ¹⁷⁶ *VCH Essex IX*, 197.
- ¹⁷⁷ *A Rep. of the ARP Cttee on the Organisation and Administration of the CD Services with a Brief Acct of the Operations in which they were Engaged 1939–1945* (1947), 29 (copy in ERO, LIB/614.8).
- ¹⁷⁸ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 16 Sept., 28 Oct. 1943.
- ¹⁷⁹ Ibid. 22 June 1944; *HDS*, 1 July 1944.
- ¹⁸⁰ ERO, D/B 4 M1/1, 10 Aug. 1944; HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 27 Jan., 25 May, 6 July 1944, 12 Apr. 1945.
- ¹⁸¹ ERO, D/B 4 M1/1, 12 Apr., 10 May 1945; D/B 4 Pb13/1496.
- ¹⁸² Ibid. D/B 4 M2/1/1, 5, 12, 26 Mar., 16, 23 Apr., 7, 31 May, 18 June 1945; *HDS*, 17 Mar. 1945.
- ¹⁸³ ERO, D/B 4 M2/1/1, 9 July 1945; HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 21 June, 6 Sept. 1945.
- ¹⁸⁴ *HDS*, 9, 30 Sept. 1939.
- ¹⁸⁵ A. Calder, *The People's War: Britain 1939–45* (1969), 211, 221, 222, 287, 562; Douglas Brown, *East Anglia 1945* (1994), 71; Gardiner, *Wartime Britain*, 359.
- ¹⁸⁶ P. Addison and J. A. Crang (eds), *The Spirit of the Blitz: Home Intelligence and British Morale September 1940–June 1941* (2020), 19.
- ¹⁸⁷ *HDS*, 6 July 1940.
- ¹⁸⁸ ERO, C/W 1/2/35, 26 Feb. 1941.
- ¹⁸⁹ *HDS*, 5 Apr. 1941.
- ¹⁹⁰ Ibid. 19 Feb. 1944; above, this article, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston at war, Air attacks and war damage.
- ¹⁹¹ Ibid. 8 May 1943, 3 Mar. 1945.
- ¹⁹² Ibid. 17 Feb. 1945.
- ¹⁹³ Ibid. 10, 17 July 1943.
- ¹⁹⁴ Ibid. 19 May 1945.
- ¹⁹⁵ Ibid. 27 Jan., 25 May 1940.
- ¹⁹⁶ Ibid. 12, 19 Dec. 1942, 13, 27 Mar., 11, 18 Dec. 1943, 8 Jan. 1944.
- ¹⁹⁷ Ibid. 28 Mar. 1942, 20 Mar 1943, 25 Mar. 1944, 24 Mar. 1945.
- ¹⁹⁸ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 20 Mar. 1940; *HDS*, 23 Nov. 1940, 19 Apr. 1941, 5 Dec. 1942, 16 Jan. 1943.
- ¹⁹⁹ *HDS*, 8, 22 July 1944; Calder, *The People's War*, 355–6.
- ²⁰⁰ *HDS*, 10 Feb., 10, 17 Aug. 1940.
- ²⁰¹ ERO, Acc. C1367, Box 10, Dovercourt Wesleyan Ch. trustees' mins, 22 Feb. 1942; D/P 174/29/8, 1 Sept. (finance cttee mins), 28 Sept. 1942 (finance cttee rep.); HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 12 June, 25 Sept., 6 Nov. 1941, 27 Aug. 1942; *HDS*, 27 Sept. 1941, 22 Aug. 1942.
- ²⁰² HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 22 Jan. 1942, 29 Apr. 1943; *HDS*, 24 Apr. 1943.
- ²⁰³ *HDS*, 15 Jan. 1944.
- ²⁰⁴ E.g. *HDS*, 21, 28 Oct., 4 Nov. 1939.
- ²⁰⁵ Ibid. 9, 16 Dec. 1939, 13, 20 Jan., 17 Feb., 16, 23 Mar. 1940.
- ²⁰⁶ Ibid. 28 June 1941.
- ²⁰⁷ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 24 June, 5, 26 Aug. 1943, 6, 27 July 1944; *HDS*, 3, 10, 17 July, 7–28 Aug. 1943, 15 July 1944.
- ²⁰⁸ ERO, D/B 4 M1/1, 13 Feb., 7 Mar. 1940; general purposes cttee mins, 1 Aug. 1940; *HDS*, 17, 24 Feb., 9 Mar., 20 July 1940.
- ²⁰⁹ *HDS*, 9, 23 Jan. 1943, 24 Mar., 7 Apr. 1945.
- ²¹⁰ Ibid. 9–30 Sept. 1939, 4 May 1940, 14 June–16 Aug., 13 Sept. 1941.
- ²¹¹ Ibid. 20, 27 Apr., 4 May 1940.
- ²¹² Ibid. 31 Aug., 14 Sept. 1940.
- ²¹³ Ibid. 30 Mar. 1940.
- ²¹⁴ Ibid. 28 Oct., 4 Nov. 1939, 24 Feb. 1940.
- ²¹⁵ Ibid. 1 Feb. 1941, 4 Apr. 1942.

²¹⁶ Ibid. 2 Aug. 1941, 24 Feb., 3, 10, 31 Mar. 1945.

²¹⁷ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 7 Aug. 1941; Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 13 Jan., 26 Feb., 10 Nov. 1942; *HDS*, 9, 16 May 1942.

²¹⁸ HTC, war emergency cttee mins, 18 Oct. 1939 (adjourned meeting of 17 Oct. 1939), 4 Nov. 1941; *HDS*, 2 Mar. 1940.

²¹⁹ *HDS*, 14 Nov. 1942, 17 Apr., 9 Oct. 1943.

²²⁰ ERO, Acc. C1367, Box 10, Dovercourt Wesleyan Ch. trustees' mins, 28 Jan. 1941, 9 Jan. 1942, 29 Jan. 1943, 31 Jan. 1945; HTC, 209, G. Appleby, 'Dovercourt in the Second World War'; *HDS*, 25 Nov. 1939, 17 Feb. 1940.

²²¹ *HDS*, 19 May, 13 Oct. 1945.

²²² Ibid. 5, 12 Dec. 1942, 10, 24 June, 8 July 1944.

²²³ HTC, 165; council-in-cttee mins, 30 Sept. 1943.

²²⁴ Above, this article, Civil and military defence, Removal of the defences and de-requisitioning.

²²⁵ *HDS*, 3, 17, 24, 31 July 1943.

²²⁶ Ibid. 10 Apr., 12, 19 June 1943.

²²⁷ Ibid. 13 Sept. 1941, 3, 17 Oct. 1942, 7 Aug. 1943.

²²⁸ Ibid. 9 Sept. 1939; above, this article, Civil and military defence, CD.

²²⁹ Ibid. 30 Sept., 7, 14, 21 Oct., 11 Nov., 30 Dec. 1939, 6 Jan. 1940.

²³⁰ HTC, Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 21 Nov. 1940, 23 Jan., 4 Mar., 15 May 1941.

²³¹ *HDS*, 27 July 1940, 31 Mar. 1945.

²³² HTC, Harwich sch. educ. cttee mins, 14 Dec. 1943; *HDS*, 8 Jan., 8 July 1944.

²³³ *HDS*, 10 June, 23 Sept. 1944.

²³⁴ Ibid. 18 Mar., 2 Sept. 1944.

²³⁵ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 27 Aug. 1942; *HDS*, 25 May, 1 June, 7 Sept. 1940, 15, 22 Mar., 23 Aug., 6 Sept. 1941, 29 Aug., 5 Sept. 1942, 2 Oct. 1943, 2, 23 Sept. 1944.

²³⁶ ERO, D/P 174/29/8, annual parochial meeting mins, 26 Mar. 1940, 9 Apr. 1945.

²³⁷ *HDS*, 14 June, 6 Sept. 1941; above, this article, Harwich, Dovercourt and Parkeston at war, Air attacks and war damage.

²³⁸ HTC, general purposes cttee mins, 5 Oct. 1944.

²³⁹ Ibid. 4 Jan., 15 Feb. 1945; *HDS*, 3, 10 Mar. 1945.

²⁴⁰ *HDS*, 12, 19 May 1945.

²⁴¹ ERO, D/B 4 M2/1/1, 14 Aug. 1945; *HDS*, 18 Aug. 1945.

²⁴² ERO, D/J 109/1/5, 28 Mar., 25 Apr. (ward assembly), 16 May 1945 (adjourned ward assembly); D/RT M1/20, general purposes cttee rep. of meeting of 9 July 1945; *HDS*, 7 July, 25 Aug., 1, 8 Sept. 1945.