

and breakfast at nine  
we motored into Evesham  
where Edith did a lot  
of shopping/

of shopping which took some time. We then had tea at the Gateway Cafe a delightfull little place and genuinly old. We then returned to Salford to find Mary had cooked a most appetising dinner to which we did full justice. She is a very good cook. This house of Mary's is a double story and has vey large grounds most of it wild with daffodils, anemonies, primroses etc . There is a vegetable garden and two fowl runs and also a small orchard whcih should be very beautiful in a few weeks tim when the fruit trees begin to flower. We are here of course in what is known as The Vale of Evesham with its small market gardeners and its thousands of cherry and other fruit trees. In season the mass of cherry trees in flower is a wonderful sight, just a sheet of white as far as one c can see."

Now I will carry on for a while. We have been invited by the Unie Union Castle together with three other South African staff couples and about three hundred of the English staff to travel to Belfast to board the Bloemfontein Castle which, although launched some time earlier , was to be officially handed over to the Company We were to travel by special train from Euston station to Liverpool where we were to board the cross Channel boat to Belfast. We leave on the 24th. March and will be back in London aboard the Bloemfontein on the 27th.

17th. March. Lorna writes "Yesterday after tea Geoff and I had a delightful walk through the fields, so green and beautiful, English fields. On the way back we met a little boy from the district who put us on the right path. He could not have been more than five or six, so kind and with a smiling face but it was with the greatest difficulty that we followed what he was talking about. The wind was fresh and bracing. Not the type of wind we get at home which goes to make bad tempers.

We lunched early as we were going to Stratford-on-Avon just before two. It was Friday, their market day, a sort of Caladonian market on a smaller scale. We particularly wanted to see this but no sooner had we left the car parked next to the Shakespeare Theatre than the rain came down in torrents. Fortunately Mary and I had taken brollies. Edith and Geoff were wise for they had brought coats or rather rain coats. I bought a pair of shoes and mac which I wanted. The coat cost 58/6d and at home would have cost £4-10-0 or even £6.

We had tea at the Cobweb cafe because of the rain and we also we felt we wanted the warmth of the fire there. Again a very old and attractive place with lovely old beams and the old look of these places which delights me. With her tea Edith managed two marangues but Mary and I could only manage one each.-enormous things but very sickly and sweet. Then off home to a nice warm fire and a lovely dinner. Mary is an exceptionally good cook but I shudder for my figure, but cannot say no the food is so appetising.

21st March. My Birthday. I always think birthdays are exciting. We decided to go out so went to e very nice tea room a short way out The Hill Tea Room for morning coffee. From here one usually gets a very fine view of the countryside but today it was very misty and visibility very limited though the drive was very pleasant. We however had a short walk in the country and enjoyed every minute of it but Edith and I do not walk like Mary and Geoff. An hours walk is what I enjoy but I expect if I took it in a mor laesuraly fashion I would not tire so easily. I will try that when we are back here. On the 23rd. March we motored into Evesham where we parked the car and caught the train for London and Mary had out sandwiches for the journey.

Before leaving on this trip I had my hair shampooed in Stratford and of course left my umbrella in the salon so Mary had to lend me hers and was to collect mine later. In the evening we had dinner