

Oswestry Carnival Queen

1958

Garrison Theatre, Park Hall

Jackie Maguire wrote in asking for a photograph that had been taken of herself and some other girls at the Garrison Theatre, Park Hall Camp when she was picked as a contestant for Carnival Queen for 1958.

We found the pictures which are shown below and she replied with some history about herself and her husband.

“A group of us were at the Garrison Dance when an older man and woman, total strangers, started wandering around the dance floor with blue sashes. The man came up to me, presented me with a sash and told me I had been chosen as a Carnival Princess. I was quite shocked as, not being a local girl, I hadn't heard about the carnival. Apparently the couple went to the Dances for a couple of weeks looking for Carnival Princesses.

From 1956 to 1958 I actually lived in married quarters at Park Hall army camp where my father was a Royal Artillery Captain, quarter master of 68 regiment.

I was 16 when we moved to Oswestry from Lincoln. My first job was as a shorthand typist at Ellis's Garage on Salop Road, earning the grand total of three pounds ten shillings a week.

I was allowed to go to the Plaza Ballroom with my friends on Saturday nights as they did not serve alcohol, only tea and biscuits in the interval. They had a really good dance band, some of whom were members of the Royal Artillery band, who were based at Park Hall.

The Garrison Theatre also held a Saturday dance but I wasn't allowed to go there until I was 18.

Park Hall Camp was home to four RA training regiments, 2 national service and two regular army. As I'm sure you know, all men had to do 2 years national service in the army but could be deferred until they had completed a course of study or an apprenticeship. As a consequence, we had an assortment of actors, writers, musicians, football players, a barrister and even a Lord somebody or other. With such a large pool of talent they put on some great concerts, musicals and revues.

I met my husband, James Maguire an apprentice carpenter/joiner with Fred Davis's building firm. He and his family lived in Oswestry for most of his childhood after the family was bombed out of their home in Liverpool 3 times during the war. We married in Oswestry Register Office on April 14th, 1958. Jim had joined the RAF by this time and since then we have travelled to many countries, eventually settling here in Adelaide, South Australia.

Jackie Maguire (Nee Froud)

2013

OSWESTRY CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

CARNIVAL QUEEN



DANCE



(FINALS)

FOR THE SELECTION OF

"OSWESTRY CARNIVAL QUEEN"

1958

will be held at the

GARRISON THEATRE, PARK HALL

(by kind permission of Brig. D. A. K. W. Block, D.S.O., M.C.)

on

FRIDAY NEXT, 11th JULY

JUDGING COMMENCES AT 10.30 P.M.

GEORGE RILEY AND HIS BAND

:: Dancing 8.30 p.m. till 1.0 a.m. ::

LUCKY SPORTS

REFRESHMENTS

ADMISSION (by Ticket Only) 5/-; **H.M. FORCES** (in uniform 3/- (at door). Tickets obtainable from Enterprise Florists; Bromley's Cafe, Willow Street; Edwards' Cafe, Willow Street, of Committee Members.

Hampson's Bus leaves King Street at 8.15 p.m. and frequent intervals till 10.15 p.m., returning after the Dance.

NEXT DANCE:

GARRISON THEATRE, 4th AUG. (August Monday)

G9HA



Miss Hazel Cotterill, Miss Mary Williams, Miss Jacqueline Froud, and Miss P. Wormald — the latest four Oswestry Carnival Princesses chosen at a dance on Monday.

Four more 'Princesses'

SCHOOLBOYS BACK FROM BELGIUM

A PARTY of boys from Oswestry Boys' Modern School returned on Saturday from an enjoyable visit to Belgium. They left Oswestry on Friday, March 23, and after spending the night in London, went on to Brussels, where they spent four days. They were taken on a conducted tour of the city, and were shown round the Town Hall, the Maison de Roi and the Art Gallery. They also saw the site of the International Exhibition, which is to be opened later this month.

An interesting afternoon was spent at Brussels Airport, in Belgium, where the boys were taken round the airport, seeing at close quarters some of the great workings of Sabena, the Belgian national airline line. While

OVER 800 dancers were present at Oswestry Carnival Committee "Princess" dance at the Garrison Theatre on Easter Monday, when the following four "Princesses" were chosen: Miss Jacqueline Froud, 1 Park Crescent, Park Hall, Miss Mary Williams, Hopton, Nesscliff, Miss Hazel Cotterill, 12 Park Crescent, Park Hall, and Miss Pam Wormald, 19 Inglis Road, Park Hall.

The judges were: Mr. and Mrs. J. Smart, and Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Dyas (all of Shrewsbury), Oswestry Carnival Queen (Mrs. C. Jones) and the Deputy Queen (Miss Jean Swain, Pant) sashed the winners, the latter with the judges presenting the floral sprays.

Competitions were won by Mr. Hill, Manchester, and Mr. R. Jones, Burlton, the Carnival Queen presenting the prizes.

Organisation of the dance was in the hands of Messrs. W. Evans (secretary), W. Sandom (treasurer), R. Brown, Norman Morgan, S. H. Corbett, Mrs. E. Jones, Mrs. Hinder, Mrs. S. H. Corbett, and Mrs. N. Morgan. Mr. Dick Roberts was the dance M.C.

OSWESTRY CARNIVAL QUEEN

prepared to work. Consequently there was a shortage of housekeepers and that fact coupled

EIGHTEEN "Princesses" paraded at the Garrison Theatre, Park Hall, Oswestry on Friday, when Oswestry Carnival Committee held their final selection dance for this year's Oswestry Carnival Queen.

At each dance, four "Princesses" have been chosen. There was an atmosphere of excitement among the seven hundred dancers when the judging of the entrants took place.

For this special occasion, the Carnival Committee had engaged the services of Mr. Len Wootton, Mr. Les Massey and Mrs. Edwards, of the All-England Independent Adjudicators Panel of Stoke-on-Trent.

Guests included Cllr. G. and Mrs. Wilkes, Mrs. R. Brown (vice-president), Mr. J. P. Pugh (vice-chairman), Cllr. L. D. E. and Mrs. Turner (Deputy Mayor) and Mrs. Massey, Police Sgt. and Mrs. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. N. Read and Mr. and Mrs. Lovedesed.

There was a special welcome for Cllr. R. Roberts (Mayor of Oswestry) who was accompanied by his wife.

The parade

There was tremendous applause when the contesting "Princesses" entered the ballroom, flanking each side to form a guard of honour for the reception of the retiring Carnival Queen (Mrs. D. Jones) who in full regalia walked in procession to take her seat at the foot of the stage.

Her train was carried by two small attendants, Mair Cresser, 5, Cambrian Place and Elaine Price, 10, Gate Street, Oswestry.

Those parading were: Miss Redydd Thomas, Neath, Swansea; Miss Frances Evans, 34, Coppice Drive, Oswestry; Miss Gail Hawkins, Edward Street, Oswestry; Miss Marion Davies, 31, Chestnut Avenue, Oswestry;

Miss Mary Williams, Hopton, Nesscliffe; Miss Hazel Cotterill, Park Hall, Oswestry; Miss Fane Kites, Bell Hotel, Oswestry; Miss Josephine Grigg, 31, Woodside, Oswestry; Miss Barbara Howell, 13, Coppice Drive, Oswestry;

Miss Pam Wormald, Inghis Road, Park Hall; Mrs. Jacqueline Maguire, Park Hall; Miss Patricia Maguire, Laburnum Drive, Oswestry; Miss Violet Peete, New Hton, St. Martin's; Miss Sheila Guest, Mereside, Fencemere, Baschurch; Miss Doreen Osmond, Penyrbyn Crescent,

Whittington; Miss Wilma Lamond, Gellifelin, Llangedwyn; Miss Diana Gregory, Hazel Grove, Oswestry; Miss Iris Leach, Vine Cottages, Oswestry.

Marshals for the parade were Messrs W. Sandom, R. Brown and N. Morgan.

By process of elimination the parade was reduced to seven (Miss Frances Evans, Miss Gail Hawkins, Miss Josephine Grigg, Miss Pam Wormald, Mrs. Jacqueline Maguire, Miss Sheila Guest and Miss Wilma Lamond).

From these the judges made their unanimous choice, this being Miss Wilma Lamond, Llangedwyn, with Miss Sheila Guest as runner-up.

For the sashing ceremony which was performed by the retiring Carnival Queen, the Mayor accompanied by the Mayoress, donned his chain of office and offered his congratulations to the winner and thanks to all the young ladies taking part in the parade.

The Mayoress presented a bouquet to the new Queen and Mrs. Turner to the retiring Queen. The Mayoress to the runner-up, the Mayoress herself being the recipient of one from the new Queen.

Each of the "Princesses" received floral buttonholes, the gift of Mrs. R. Brown, who had been responsible for the stage decorations.

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Competition

Competition winners were Miss Gladys Jones, Grafton; Miss Sheila Charles, Baschurch; Miss Joyce Edwards, Oswestry; and Miss Brenda Ralphs and Mr. Roy Roberts, Oswestry.

Organisation of the dance was in the hands of Messrs W. Evans (secretary), W. Sandom (treasurer) with assistance of the following Messrs R. Brown, N. Morgan, S. H. Corbett, W. Marshall, T. Griffiths, W. Milligan, G. Griffiths, W. Lloyd, C. Harris, Jim Evans, Mrs. E. Hinder, Mrs. N. Morgan, Mrs. S. H. Corbett, Mrs. Dyke, Mrs. E. Jones, Mrs. Pugh, Mrs. Sandom and Mrs. V. Thomas.



Miss Wilma Lamond, Llangedwyn, the newly-elected Oswestry Carnival Queen for 1958 (left), with runner-up, Miss Sheila Guest, Baschurch.

Garrison Theatre



A rare view of the Garrison Theatre at Park Hall Camp before it was demolished.