

## NORMAN PENNY'S FAMILY - ROOTS and BRANCHES - GRAMPSIE & GRANDMA KITTY

Just as my step-grandfather Grampsie's "perspectives" in paintings changed from "An Italian Garden" of 1926 - look at the steps - to "Loch Morar near Mallaig" of 1958, so have mine during my journey exploring my family background. The direct blood line roots have had a few branches added on - more distant relatives - and being included is this non-blood line relationship that I consider is and has been of importance to me. Grampsie's paintings hang in several rooms in our house - ever present.

Tracking down information on Grampsie (Harold Vincent Redman) has been a challenge. However, having paid all of £3.36 to the UK National Archives to obtain Register Number 19954 on 3rd Feb 2014, I have gone data-mining into naval and other records which have enabled more of this part of the family story to be told. Work in progress - yes; still to sort out when Grampsie and my grandmother Kitty (Katherine Adelaide Muirden) met etc. - Issue 2 to come !!



An Italian Garden H V Redman 1926



Loch Morar, near Mallaig H V Redman 1958

HAROLD VINCENT REDMAN - "Grampsie" - my step-grandfather  
Admiralty general listing is - Royal Marine Light Infantry, Chatham Division  
Extracts from Naval Record Register - 19954

Where enlisted	London
When enlisted	8th June 1915
Age on enlistment	17 years 4 days
Date of birth	4th June 1898
Where born	Bermondsey, London
Trade	Pastry cooks assistant
Religion	Church of England

Date and place of marriage	25th Aug 1924
	Minster, Isle of Thanet, Kent

Next of kin	Father J E, 7 Roberts Road, Watford
	Wife Kathleen Adelaide, 74 Kingswood Road, Gillingham

	Stature		Color of			Marks, wounds
	Feet	Ins	Complexion	Eyes	Hair	and sears
On enlistment	5	6½	Fresh	Brown	Brown	Nil
On final discharge	5	9½	"	"	Fair	"

Joined as a Private and is shown as a Marine whilst on Cyclops between 22 June and 21 Dec 1923.

*There are extensive listings of postings (land and sea) some of which I have been able to follow up (see next pages). This is a summary:-*

Name of Division or Ship	Date of (1900)		Character	Ability	My notes
	Entry	Discharge			
Recruit Depot, Deal	08-Jun-15	22-Nov-15			Infantry qualification VG 20/11/15; musketry 23/10/15; gunnery 23/10/15.
Chatham	23-Nov-15	29-Feb-16	V.G.	Sat	Dockyard was a construction, repair and embarkation point.
Lancaster	01-Mar-16	07-Feb-17	V.G.	Sat	Chatham to Port Stanley then patrolling on East Pacific.
President	08-Feb-17	22-Mar-19	V.G.	Sat	WW 1 time HMS President not afloat until 1918; this may be a Falklands base.
Chatham	23-Mar-19	07-Jul-19			
Bryony	08-Jul-19	10-Nov-20	V.G.	Supr	Launched on 27 Oct 1917 was a convoy escort disguised as a merchant ship.
Chatham	11-Nov-20	03-Jan-21	V.G.	Supr	
Pandora	04-Jan-21	20-Dec-22	V.G.	Supr	Launched on 9th November 1914. A depot ship that supplied submarines.
Cyclops	21-Dec-22	03-Jan-25	V.G.	Supr	Launched on 27th October 1905. Ex-merchant ship supplied submarines.
Chatham	04-Jan-25	11-Jan-25			
Pembroke	12-Jan-25	03-Apr-25			This was a shore barracks at Chatham - naval cookery course, perhaps.
Chatham	04-Apr-25	30-Sep-27	V.G.	Supr	Employed as a cook - seems likely following course.

Miscellaneous entries on the record include

Able to Swim	Yes	When Tested	21-Jul-15	Where	Deal
Passed for	Naval Cookery 96.5%		Date	03-Apr-25	

Employment During Service - 9th April 1925 to 20th Sept 1927; Cook *plus unclear entry*  
Towards Pension - under age from 8th June 1915 to 3rd June 1916

Discharged 30th September 1927 "at own request on payment of the regulated amount of £24" and recommended for RFR [*Royal Fleet Reserve* ].

Address on discharge: *looks like* "Buen Retiro" [*scored out* ] with Libertad, F C Midland, Buenos Aires, Argentine.

*F C Midland is a football and athletic club founded in 1914 by Buenos Aires Midland Railway workers in the Libertad district of Merlo Partido with FC standing for "Ferrocarril".* [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Club\\_Ferrocarril\\_Midland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Club_Ferrocarril_Midland)

Ferrocarril in Spanish is railroad in English.

HMS Lancaster - info from Royal Navy Log Books

Grampsie served on from:-

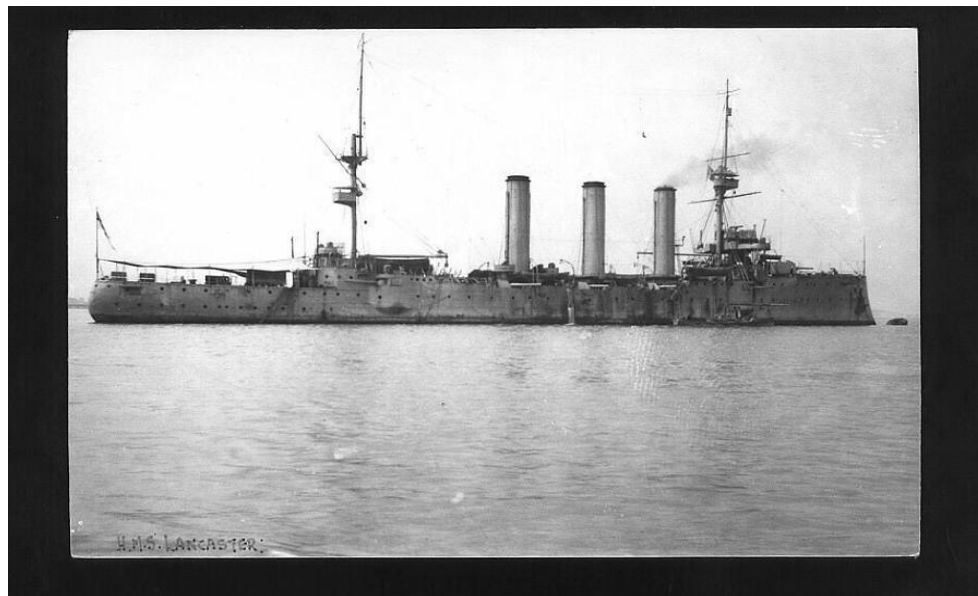
01-Mar-16

to

07-Feb-17

01-Mar-16	Embarked	29-Apr-16	To Magellan Strait
02-Mar-16	Provisioning ship	08-May-16	Valparaiso
03-Mar-16	Basin trial	14-Jun-16	San Juan
06-Mar-16	Hands ammunitioning ship	07-Aug-16	Acapulco
07-Mar-16	Crew employed ammunitioning ship		"On patrol" off Chile, Peru - Vancouver
08-Mar-16	Ammunitioning and provisioning		(Esquimat, Vancouver was an RN base)
09-Mar-16	Chatham to Sheerness	24-Dec-16	Port Stanley
17-Mar-16	Sheerness to Plymouth	07-Feb-17	<i>Grampsie disembarked</i>
19-Mar-16	Plymouth to Madeira - coaling	09-Feb-17	Sail Port Stanley to Punta Arenas
26-Mar-16	St Vincent - coaling		then "on patrol"
02-Apr-16	Customary ceremony crossing Equator	15-Jun-17	San Francisco - sighted Alcatraz
10-Apr-16	Rio de Janeiro - saluting with guns	10-Dec-17	Callao - boarded President of Peru
13-Apr-16	Read Articles of War		"On patrol" off Chile, Peru - Vancouver
18-Apr-16	Port Stanley	08-May-19	Entered Panama Canal (west)
23-Apr-16	Sail Port Stanley to Punta Arenas	12-May-19	Kingston, Jamaica
26-Apr-16	Punta Arenas - saluting with guns	08-Jun-19	Sheerness

*This log explains what I was told about him being in the Falklands - not based there full time but based from there then on patrol in the East Pacific.*

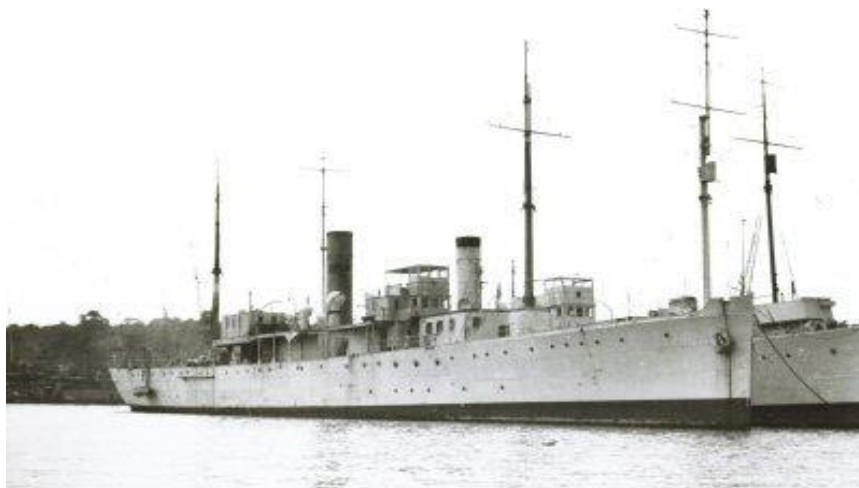


#### HMS Lancaster

Grampsie's Service:-

01-Mar-16 to 07-Feb-17

A Monmouth Class armoured cruiser launched 22/3/1902 sold for break up 3/3/20. in 1913 went to the West Indies as part of the 4th CS. Returned to join the 7th CS , Grand Fleet in 1915. To Pacific in April 1916 and in 1918 became flagship of the Eastern Squadron. Sold for scrap in 1920.



#### HMS Bryony

Grampsie's Service:-

08-Jul-19 to 10-Nov-20

An Anchusa-class sloop, built at the yards of Armstrong Whitworth and launched on 27 October 1917. She was used to escort convoys during the First World War, and in common with other ships of her class, was disguised as a merchant vessel, known as a Q-ship. After the war she remained in service with the Royal Navy and was decommissioned before WW 2 and sold in 1938 to be broken up.



HMS President was a sister ship to HMS Bryony. It's name caused some confusion in my research because Grampsie spent just over twenty four months in 1917 / 19 at either a ship or division "President".

The ship here is one of the last remaining Royal Navy WW 1 ships and until recently was moored by Victoria Embankment, London (the millennium wheel is in the background). Ironically I have been looking at this ship for many years as it is opposite the Institution of Engineering & Technology at Savoy House (previously the Institution of Electrical Engineers) which I have been visiting for 33 years - not even thinking this ship may be of significance.

In the background of this photograph is the London Millennium Wheel on the South Bank of the Thames. About 500 yards due east of the Wheel is my daughter Tara's school where she was Vice Principal.

Further research shows that "HMS President" was a shore pay and administration office which handled the accounts of numerous out-stations. In addition, the term "HMS President" was used extensively as all Royal Naval personnel had to belong to a commissioned warship to be subject to Naval discipline so any shore base had to have a ship's name. Therefore more than one HMS President existed. HMS President II was the Chatham/London/Shrewsbury accounting base in the period when Grampsie was shown as being "on" HMS President between February 1917 and March 1919. Because the way records are compiled with contiguous dates it is not obvious if this time "on" HMS President was in the Falklands or Chatham. However, as I was lead to believe he was based in the Falklands for part of WW 1 I am going to assume he did spend around 2 years based there.





#### HMS Pandora

Grampsie's Service:-

04-Jan-21 to 20-Dec-22

Photograph of HMS Pandora re-supplying some K Class Submarines (K22, K15).

Renamed Dolphin 1924. Sunk 23 December 1939.



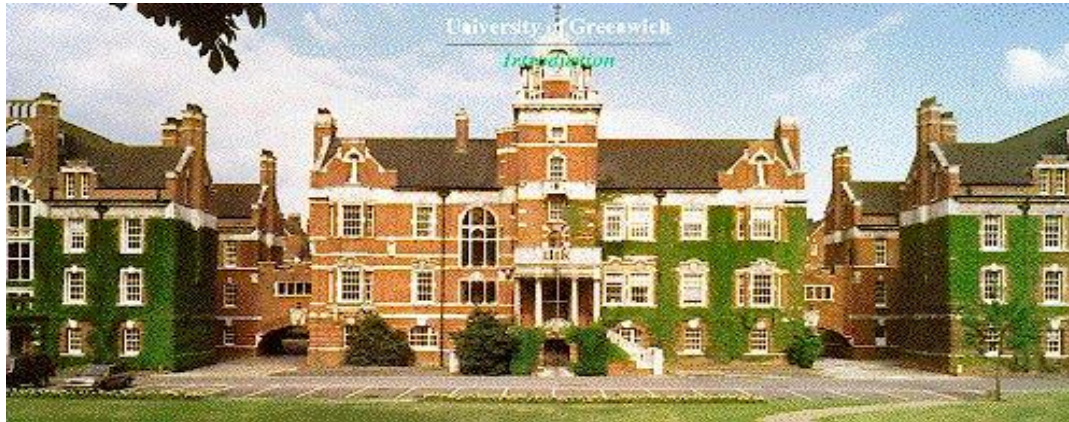
#### HMS Cyclops (Fleet supply and repair ship)

Grampsie's Service:-

21-Dec-22 to 03-Jan-25

Photograph of HMS Cyclops with a K Class submarine at Majorca - extracted from a larger photograph of the combined Atlantic and Mediterranean fleets at Pollensa Bay, Majorca in 1924.

An ex-merchant ship (Indrabarah) built by Laing and launched 27 Oct 1905. Displacement 11,300 tons, Speed 13 knots, Complement 266. Armament 2x 4 inch guns. Served during WW 1 and in WW 2; between the wars served as a submarine depot ship in the Mediterranean returning to Home Waters in 1939 where she spent the WW 2 war years until being scrapped at Newport in July 1947.



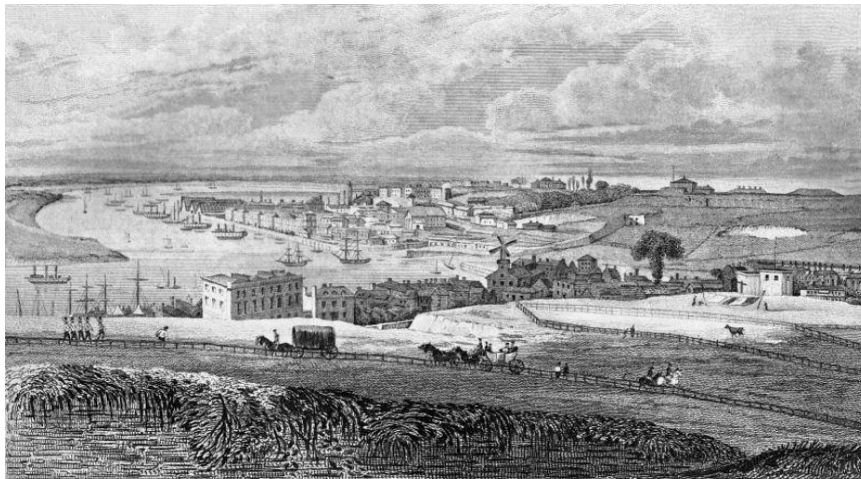
HMS Pembroke

Grampsie's Service:-

12-Jan-25 to 03-Apr-25

Pembroke was the name given to the shore barracks at Chatham. The building designed by Sir Henry Pilkington now houses the Universities at Medway Campus.

*It is likely that Grampsie received his naval cookery training in this building.*



Engraving from Ireland's History of Kent 1831.

Chatham Dockyard

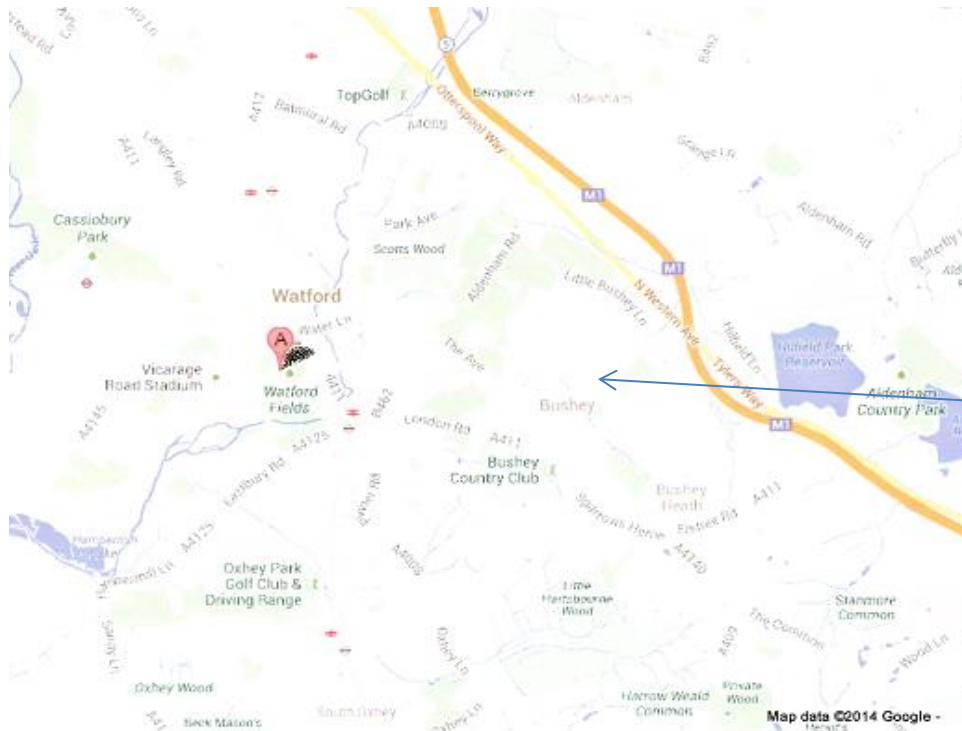
Grampsie's Service:-

5 occasions between 23 Nov 1915 and 30 Sep 1927

For 414 years Chatham Dockyard provided over 500 ships for the Royal Navy and was the forefront of shipbuilding, industrial and architectural technology.

Chatham was a principal manning port of the Royal Navy in WW 1 and thus was dedicated as the site of one of three memorials killed during the conflict but who gave no grave.

The dockyard closed in 1984.



## Watford Connection

Grampsie's father is listed as his next of kin on his service record. J E Redman, 7 Roberts Road, Watford. This is shown as "A" on the adjacent map. At some stage Grampsie and Grandma Kitty lived in Bushey.

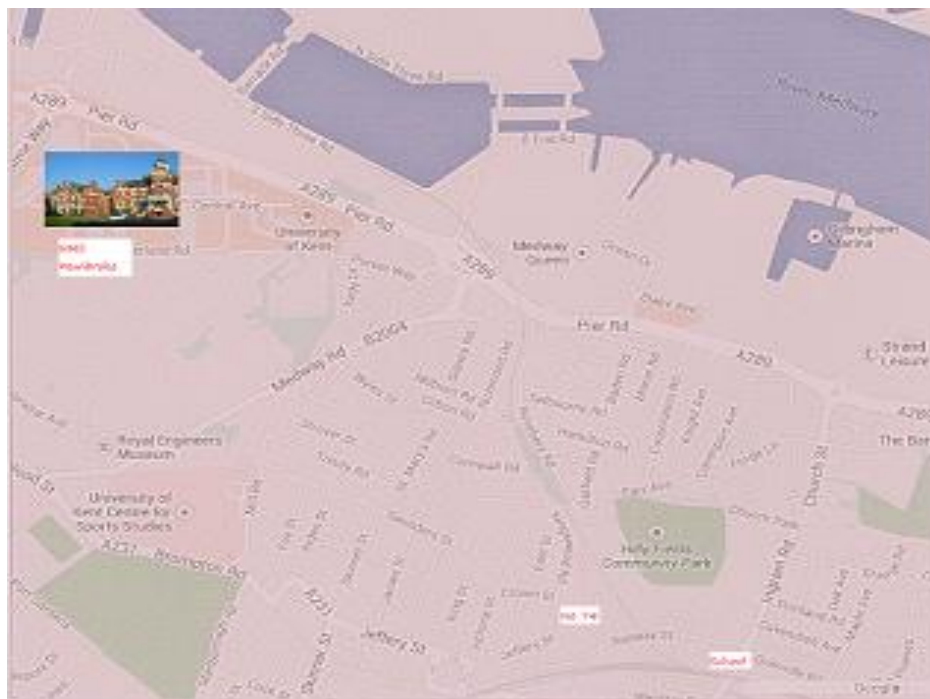
In the early 1970s I lived in Bushey about a mile away from Grampsie/Kitty's home.

Bushey.

My daughter Tara was born at Watford General Hospital, close to Roberts Road.

My daughter Melody recently worked in Borehamwood, about 8 miles from Watford.





## Gillingham connection

Grampsie and Kitty married on 25 August 1924 at Minster, Thanet about 5 miles from Birchington where my wife Annie and I now live.

Kitty (as "wife") is shown as Grampsie's next of kin at 74 Kingswood Road, Gillingham - presumably after August 1924. Address on discharge is in Buenos Aires so presumably they lived in Gillingham until just after September 1927.

My mum (Phyllis) and perhaps her sister (Gladys) went to school in Gillingham next to Our Lady of Gillingham church, Ingram Road - about 1/2 mile from Kingswood Road.

When Melody was in a pram my Mum, Dad, Annie and I took her to the "Great Lines" above Chatham an open space that formed a layer of defence to protect the dockyard from attack. Mum remembered playing there but did not recall the memorial - unveiled 26 Apr 1924.



For years I have gone past Mum's Gillingham School on the train not realising she went there nearly 100 years ago!

Houses - from Google Maps - 3 Feb 2014

7 Roberts Road  
Watford

Grampsie's father's house - WW 1



74 Kingswood Road  
Gillingham

Grampsie & Kitty's house - 1920s



17 Victoria Road  
Bushey

My house - 1970s



Sources: HMS Bryony

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS\\_Bryony\\_\(1917\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Bryony_(1917))

HMS Lancaster

<http://www.naval-history.net/OWShips-WW1-05Lancaster1.htm>  
<http://www.naval-history.net/OWShips-WW1-05Lancaster2.htm>

HMS Pandora

[http://www.battleships-cruisers.co.uk/depot\\_ships.htm](http://www.battleships-cruisers.co.uk/depot_ships.htm)

HMS Cyclops

[http://www.worldnavalships.com/other\\_photographs.htm#fleet](http://www.worldnavalships.com/other_photographs.htm#fleet)  
[http://www.battleships-cruisers.co.uk/hms\\_cyclops.htm](http://www.battleships-cruisers.co.uk/hms_cyclops.htm)

F C Midland

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Club\\_Ferrocarril\\_Midland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Club_Ferrocarril_Midland)

Chatham Dockyard

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chatham\\_Dockyard](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chatham_Dockyard)



Grampsie was at my christening in October 1948 having made the christening cake at his brother's house, Fred, in Watford. Below are the pages of the letter he sent my parents. The envelope had an Olympics 1948 stamp.

Watford  
1. Oct 1948.

My dear Cyril & Jim,

Your letter postmarked 30th yesterday arrived this morning 9. AM. very good going. God bless you both for putting my mind at rest and for doing such a great kindness. I have just phoned Mr Edwards R.M. so all is O.K. and I can breathe again.

I note what you say! so shall not write to Mr S. yet re cheque & await Drugg's information & procedure, but oh! I am relieved how dear I want to answer your typed written letter.

I know the feeling you had when you saw the cake for your precious son & tried to bless him. (Not because I made it) but I have seen the awful looking things in London & everywhere else what they call "Wedding cakes" and I thank Mally & Jim for keeping the secret. Of course I did not know what kind of a job I could make of it when I told Mally about it on one of our trips in Duviness that is why I wrote & asked you to let me know the date as soon as possible & thought perhaps Mally had forgotten to let me know. I made it on that date so as it would mature & be ready to ice any moment.

Your next question is WHERE did I get the ingredients! I will tell you the pedigree & history of it. I think quite good for Paul & Wil Britain I hope it will not

got from a fellow that worked at Bucks bakers when I was there 1914. Being sugar being bought. The ground almonds I have got for me the day I left Northampton. I was at where I did not ask & was only too pleased to get them. (I thought I would have to use sarsaparilla & essence) now there were two coats of icing put on before the piping the first white of egg as Royal icing. the 2nd coat - touch of the trade icing. perhaps you know it, but will give it you, in case not. The piping was royal, Fred did the white stuff & put the balls on. The paper for lining box from Woolworths. Dad did that for me the cake was fixed the same way as I did the one that you & Gladys took out to the Argentine in 1926. The man in Euston & fixed up the day before to allow me to put it on the train myself. The guard of that train & said he went half way & said it would have special care etc from the next. So now you know, who made it & how. and why I wanted it to arrive intact. Now for easy icing & cheap. Being sugar & unadorned gelatine "Davis" is good that water, essence if required. for a nice cake, a cup of hot water & a teaspoonful of gelatine stir in enough sugar (being) to make a stiff paste for piping, less if using as I said you can use chocolate if required. no eggs required.

END

Your description of the christening was really reading. Tears came to my eyes when



were you too much, I got a tick out of  
N. Y. I managed to borrow a tin from Ma  
after I getting 1/2 day from neighbours to  
cheese from. The wood for the board I got  
off the man next door who is a Sgt in R.A. &  
stationed near Watford, Fred took it to the  
works & had it cut out. I found some  
silver paper in a paper hangers. The  
capers you gave me for my. Arg. the  
butter & lard used Arg. peel & cherries  
I've bought some where, the 100 currants  
was next door. No whole almonds, so the  
hazelnuts used were picked by the  
children when staying here. I'll shell  
them and chop them up. Sugar flour &  
eggs I've gone. Brandy I bought 1 bot  
at a pub. The essence Woolworths the piece.  
I mixed the cake when everyone was out  
of the house I've come it when it was  
ready so I got her to cook it because I  
was not sure of the oven. Fred & I went out  
when we got back the cake was on a stand  
that night I painted it with whiskey that  
Johnny Walker gave me. wrapped it up  
in grease proof put it in a biscuit tin  
until I got your date. The maiden hair  
from Watford. the cradle with Jimmy little  
man in it I got in London. The set of  
ribes Fred borrowed from a baker friend  
the silver balls we begged borrowed  
at store. The little sugar cherries we

I had about memory & I'm sure you know  
of her always. but I think that would have got  
me down completely. I know Betty will break  
down when she reads it all. I am so pleased  
that the two darling were so good & that they  
had so many nice presents.

Before I forget Fred tied the bow on the cake.

Well I never to think, that you were able to use  
that brocade cloth, for the use dear that was  
wonderful I hope it will bring him health  
& wealth all through his life & that his own  
son will be able to use the same cloth  
with his Grandparents standing by. bless  
you all. Jimmy you must not say cake  
making, surely you forget what they used  
to be like before the war.

With love and thanking you  
again for your great assistance in my  
hour of need

Love & best wishes to you all

Ever yours Lovingly  
Harold

P.S.  
sorry I could not make better a cake  
I could not get the stuff.

P.P.S.

Please thank Glad & Doug for their assistance

Can you or Glad remember Mrs Viney's address,  
please as I have written to her but can't send it.



