

Effingham and The Bookhams Branch of The British Legion – Supplement

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This supplementary article identifies a person in a photograph in the primary article who had not been previously identified.

Introduction

The primary article [*Studies in the History of Effingham*, Vol 4, Article 36] included (as Figure 30) the following photograph, probably taken in the 1960s or 1970s, which was among a collection of photographs that had originated from Eileen Ethel (née Horton) Ranger and been conveyed to ELHG by Kathleen Hilda Gwenda (née) Parrish. It shows the entrance to the headquarters in Lower Road, Effingham of the local branch of The British Legion, with (Walter) George Ranger – Eileen's husband – on the left of the group and Colin L Gibb on the right.

A former resident of Effingham has since informed us that the person at the centre was James George Poulter.



James had been born in Leatherhead on 14 December 1912 and registered in the following quarter [GRO Ref: Epsom 2a 71, 1913 (Q1)]. In 1928, in his mid-teens, he joined the Royal Navy with 'Boy 2' rating, being trained on HMS Impregnable and HMS Ganges before signing up on 14 December 1930 for 12 years of service.

He married in 1937 to Gwentyth Mary (née) Covey [GRO Ref: Surrey SW 2a 1064, 1937 (Q2)]. In the later 1940s they reputedly ran the Welcome Café in the group of shops on the Guildford Road (on the site where Lindens Close now stands) known locally as 'Covey Island'. By the 1960s they were living at Fairview in Mount Pleasant.

James died on 6 September 1998.