



LONGFIELD HALL

SHOWCASING OUR HISTORY: LONGFIELD HALL

◇ THE SECOND WORLD WAR ◇

MINET PUBLIC LIBRARY

Procedure during Air Raids

In future the Library will remain open after the "Alert" has sounded. If enemy planes are near, the doors will be closed and readers MUST go to the Shelter provided in the Basement. When it is thought that the danger of attack has passed the Library will re-open whether or not the all-clear has been sounded.

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Minet Library air raid notice

During the Second World War (1939-1945) the 35th Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery was based on Flodden Road.

Many local men served in this Territorial Army Unit which was active across southern England.

On 8th December 1940 significant bomb damage was sustained at the Minet Library resulting in the loss of over 18,000 books. For a while, a temporary library was run from Longfield Hall. A property adjoining the library was severely damaged on 24th September later that year. Bombs also fell in Calais Street and Akerman Road. A



Bomb damage at the Minet Library

barrage balloon was based in the park and rose above it during bombing raids.

Many local children like Doreen Mackie (nee Hobby), daughter of the then Minet librarian, were evacuated to the countryside.



Bomb damage, Knatchbull Road