



## Oral history audio transcription

### Being part of the Junior Air Corps in school

In this interview conducted in March 2020, Helen shares her memories of being in the Junior Air Corps and completing training in Walton when she was at school.

The interview was conducted in March 2020, as part of Elmbridge Museum's 'Memories of War' project. To find out more about the project, visit Elmbridge Museum's [Elmbridge At War](#) online exhibition.

### Audio Transcription

**Helen:** Wimbledon High School, yes, well I was there until I took my Matric [Matriculation], and I was in the Sixth Form – Lower Sixth. But that was in 1942, and the war was not going too well at that time, and I was a member of the Junior Air Corps. And we used to have meetings, we had uniform. Bridget and I both went there – I mean, went to weekly meetings, on bicycles. And we did, you know, Morse Code and stuff like that. And we did marching. And when I joined up, I already knew how to march, which is quite satisfying actually. We met in a school in Walton – just beyond the station in Walton. Why, I don't know! I think it was something that probably, you know, maybe Lucy, Bridget – I've no idea, but anyway we did, we cycled there. But we didn't, you know, we weren't – we were learning things about aircraft recognition, we did some Morse Code, we marched, we did some drills.

**Interviewer:** Would you say you had a generally happy time there?

**Helen:** Yes.

**Interviewer:** Was that – was it like an after-school thing or on weekends?

**Helen:** Oh yes, it was, I think it was probably – really, I can't remember the day, probably Friday evening. Yes, it wasn't, it was after school obviously, yes, not weekends.