

When I need to get dressed up and break out my regimental tie for some official military duty, I always carry my Grandfather's Military Cross, awarded for

bravery on Crete, hidden in my breast pocket in memory of him and the many shared happy times now long past.

Tom Shannon

1. *W.B. Thomas, Dare to be Free, Cassell Military Classics, Orion Books Ltd, London 2005 (3rd Printing).*
2. *Agree not to attempt to escape when outside the prison camp such as during the funeral of comrades.*

An Old Fashioned Girl

Despite being a teenager in the 'swinging sixties' I am still quite old fashioned when it comes to walking into a pub on my own. My recent birthday fell on a WI evening, so I arranged to meet Gordon and my son Ian for a drink after the meeting. Walking into the bar I was horrified to find that I was there before both of them and, looking around, realised that the place was almost full of men. I had unwittingly walked into the middle of the dominoes team playing a league match against a team from the Royal British Legion, Stow branch.

I had no idea that such a team existed but they meet in the Shaven Crown to play their home matches on a Thursday evening. Everyone (even women!) is

welcome to come along and watch when there is a match. There are usually a few people in the bar who will happily play and teach newcomers the game. I am told that the form of dominoes played is 'Fives and Threes', which can be very tactical but is easy to learn.

This is obviously one of the 'village traditions' that needs to be preserved, so if you feel inclined, go along and find out what it is all about. And if dominoes is not your game there is always crib being played on a Monday evening. The season for both games runs from September/October to April. The small fee to enter the leagues is paid by the Shaven Crown.

Christine Halliday

Wychwood Pre-School

In January we all woke up to lots of snow on the ground. The children who managed to get in had great fun. They made a snowman and a snow-dog. I think the staff had just as much fun!

Since half-term we have had a burst of children wanting to join the pre-school. This is fantastic news, as nearly all the spare places have been taken. All the children are settling in well and are getting to know their key-workers, and the pre-school way of life.

After the roaring success of our spooky craft activity morning we are planning a **Spring/Easter** one in the Easter holidays on **Wednesday 3rd April**. So please bring your children along and join us.

We are just having our website updated so if you have any queries please contact us on: 07905 632623 or email us at info@wychwoodpreschool.org Spaces are limited now.

Ros Hoare