

Brimington and Tapton Local History Group

Newspaper article extract

**Geoffrey Nash visits the Red Lion Inn (Brimington) to
meet the landlord and his regulars.**

Source and date:

The Star, Chesterfield Magazine, 14 March 1963.



*Geoffrey Nash visits
the Red Lion Inn
to meet the landlord
and his 'regulars'*

JOE APPEARED ON SAME BILL AS NOEL COWARD

MR. JOE TYLER, 50-year-old landlord of the Red Lion Inn, Brimington, started in "show business" when he was only eight. In the fancy dress section of the United Sunday School Procession at Rainworth, Notts, that year he won first prize as a Red Indian, beating his brother who was in fifth place as a jockey!

Since that time Joe has always had an interest in the entertainment world. He joined the Royal Artillery during the war, transferred to ENSA, and by the time he was demobilised in 1946 he had played a thousand Forces shows at home and abroad as a comedian, following the front from France, through Belgium, Holland and into Germany.

On the same bill as himself were stars of the calibre of Noel Coward, Frances Day, Will Hay, Nervo and Knox and Geraldo.

He still does a little entertaining nowadays, and enjoys best his efforts for old people.

Pleased

His hardest show was one at Church Warsop, Notts. "It was a Saturday night and everyone just sat there reading their Green 'Un,'" Joe re-

DOWN AT THE 'LOCAL'

called. "It was just a sea of green paper."

The one he most enjoyed was for blind people. "Not one of them could see, but they loved it," he said. "When I got home I just cried, I was so pleased that I had been able to entertain them."

That feeling for the old folk Joe takes into his pub. There is a cash gift each year for the pensioners, as well as social efforts at other times.

Terrier

Joe was born at Mansfield, started on his own as a grocer when he was 21 and by the time he was 28 had five people working for him. One of those people became his wife.

"Eunice started to work for me when she was 15, and later I decided it was time I took her out." The Tylers now have two children, Alan, aged 16, and 13-year-old Christine.

There is a fifth member of the family, Jinney, a 12-year-old diminutive Yorkshire terrier who can "call time" with the best of landlords, and barks with distaste when she hears the words "Teddy boy."

A man who has been playing for the public since 1935 is Bill Cater, who has his own £2,500 electric organ in stalled in the Red Lion. Bill made his way into music when he was only four.

"My mother took me to visit some friends and while they were talking I climbed on to the piano stool and started playing," said 48-year-old Bill, who doesn't read music. He has "When You're Smiling" as his signature tune.

Experts

Haydn Riley, a regular for 30 years, is a joiner by trade and by hobby.

Married with four sons ("I wish one was a daughter"),



MRS. TYLER behind the bar.

he enjoys cooking with roast beef and horse-radish sauce his favourite.

Man and wife team of domino experts are Bert and Ann Owen. Mrs. Owen took

the game up a year last October and now has at least a game a day.

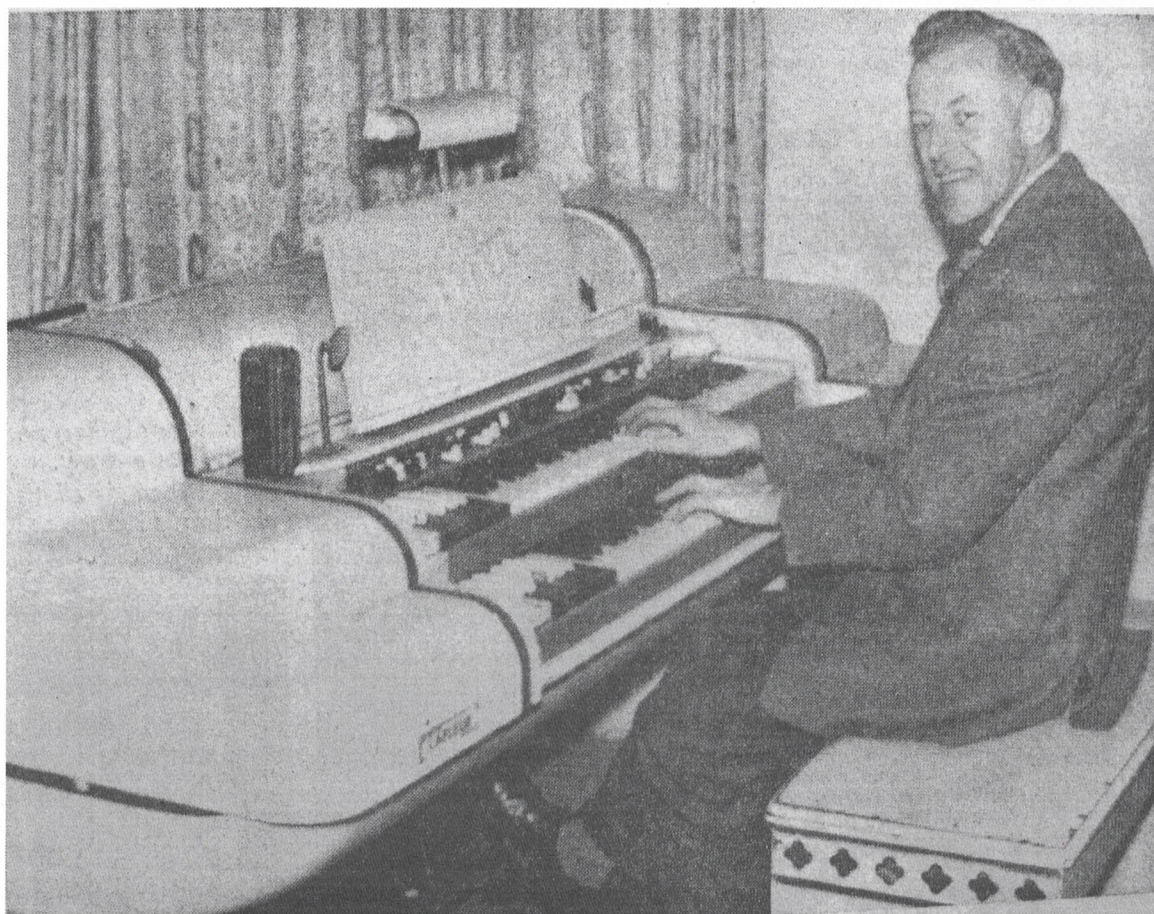
Bert, who is aged 64, is an engine driver with 44 years' service on the railways, and drives steam or diesel between Staveley and Wellingborough, Peterborough, Northampton, Stockport and Leeds.

Another railman is 26-year-old Leonard Rasen, a length man who served with the Army Catering Corps, but admits that he cannot bake is Bill Cater, who has his pan cook," he said.

And if the Red Lion were ever to be re-named I'd suggest The Flying Fag—after seeing Joe's party trick of flipping a cigarette into the air and catching it between his lips!



ENJOYING A GAME of dominoes are, from left, Mr. E. Gill, Mrs. A. Owen, Mr. B. Owen, and Mr. L. Rasen.



BILL CATER has his own £2,500 electronic organ in the Red Lion.

