

Jill Maller's parents

My **mother**, aged 20, **enlisted** as an **Airwoman in the WAAF** on 11th September 1939, with her best friend. They were promptly sent to opposite ends of the country.

She **worked as a Plotter** at Bentley Priory, the **headquarters of Fighter Command**. As **she had a driving licence, unusual** for a young woman **at that time**, she occasionally drove an ambulance.

She was commissioned as an Assistant Section Officer on 20th July 1940 and promoted to Section Officer a year later.

Thereafter, **she worked on Codes and Ciphers at various RAF stations**, around the country, **and at the headquarters of Coastal Command, Northwood**.

My **father** was a member of the TA, and was **called up** on 2nd September 1939. He **joined the Royal Artillery**, with the rank of Sergeant.

He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in July 1940, a Lieutenant in January 1942 and Captain by October 1943. He attended and instructed at numerous courses all over the country.

On 9th May 1944 he was **seconded for seven weeks, to the American Battleship the USS Nevada**, as their **Gunnery Liaison Officer for the D-Day landings**. He saw action off Cherbourg.

During August and September 1945, he **travelled to Belgium** several times **to bring prisoners** back to England. He was promoted to Major in September 1945 and demobbed in January 1946.

[parents' memories supplied by resident Jill Maller]