

# *Ake Ake Kia Kaha!*

The story of a tail-end Charlie.

Henk Brul.

Freedom is the sure possession of those alone who have the  
Courage to defend it!

Pericles

Vrijheid is het zekere bezit van alleen degenen die de moed  
hebben om het te verdedigen!

Pericles



*Heanor Memorial park. (Foto: Onne van der Spoel.)*

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## Foreword

When Henk phoned a few years ago, completely out of the blue, I realised how little I knew about my family.

Neither my grandmother nor father talked about Alwyn. I knew that Dad had had an older brother who had been in the RAF and died in the Second World War, but very little about him.

My grandmother lived with us during my childhood, but I suppose she was one of a generation who didn't talk about what they had been through. And I came from a generation who, especially in the 60s and 70s, thought that the Second World War was no longer relevant and that Remembrance Day was slightly embarrassing. So I never asked her about the man in the photograph in her room.

I am so impressed by Henk's research (not least in being able to find me!). The care and level of detail is overwhelming and I have learnt so much.

More than that though, I am humbled and grateful for the time and care that he has given to the grave and memory of a young man who lost his life so that we could live in freedom.

Thank you, Henk. I wish my teenage self could have read your research. Such sacrifice is never irrelevant, especially now, and these men and women should not be forgotten.

Frances Bagnall (née Amos)

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the need for consistent data collection and the importance of using reliable sources and methods.

3. The third part of the document describes the process of data analysis and interpretation. It explains how data is processed, analyzed, and then used to draw conclusions and make informed decisions.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the challenges and limitations of data analysis. It identifies common pitfalls and provides strategies to overcome them, such as ensuring data quality and using appropriate statistical methods.

5. The fifth part of the document concludes by summarizing the key findings and recommendations. It stresses the importance of ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure the effectiveness of the data analysis process.



## Somercotes , zomer 1922.

### De kinderjaren.

Somercotes is een dorp in het district Amber Valley in het Engelse graafschap Derbyshire, dicht bij de grens met Nottinghamshire. Het is een voormalig mijn dorp en werd ooit omringd door meer dan vijf mijnen. De vroegst bekende spelling van Somercotes was Sumcot, dat werd opgetekend in 1225. Dit komt voort uit het oorspronkelijke gebruik van het gebied voor seizoen begrazing, toen tijdelijke hutten of 'zomerhuisjes' werden gebruikt door herders. De oorspronkelijke nederzetting lag in wat nu bekend staat als Lower Somercotes, het hoger gelegen dorp dat zich veel later ontwikkelde nadat in de achttiende eeuw een tolweg naar Alfreton was aangelegd.

## Somercotes, Summer 1922.

### Childhood.

Somercotes is a village in the Amber Valley district of Derbyshire, England, close to the border with Nottinghamshire. It is a former mining village and was once surrounded by more than five mines. The earliest known spelling of Somercotes was Sumcot, which was recorded in 1225. This stems from the area's original use for seasonal grazing, when temporary huts or 'summer cottages' were used by shepherds. The original settlement was in what is now known as Lower Somercotes, the higher village that developed much later after a toll road to Alfreton was built in the 18th century.



*Nottingham road, Somercotes, begin 1900. (Foto; oorsprong en eigenaar onbekend)*

*Nottingham road, Somercotes, early 1900s. (Photo; origin and owner unknown)*

Het gebied was binnen de Norman Manor van Alfreton, en later binnen de Alfreton Urban District.

De jaren na de Eerste Wereldoorlog waren allesbehalve stabiel. Economische depressie en werkloosheid troffen alle delen van het land, en het Alfreton Urban District ontsnapte hier niet aan. Met de verkoop overname van de verschillende kolenmijnen kwam ook de onzekerheid over de toekomst. Veel van de kolenmijnen waren tegen die tijd gesloten of waren opgegaan in grotere complexen. In 1920 waren alleen de diepe mijnen van Cotes Park, New Birchwood [Shady], Lower Birchwood en de Swanwick Collieries nog open binnen de gemeente.

In de beginjaren van de 20e eeuw groeide de bevolking en kwamen gezinnen uit het hele land in de omgeving wonen en werken. Zo ook de familie Amos.

George William Amos, geboren in 1877, van beroep mijn arbeider was getrouwd met Ada Pugh.

Ada Pugh, geboren op 9 Oktober 1894, was een oorlogsweduwe. Haar eerste man, soldaat John Thomas Price, is gestorven als krijgsgevangene op 31 oktober 1918 te Limerlé, gemeente Gouvy, in België en ligt begraven op het oorlogskerkhof te Heverlee.

George en Ada zijn op 23 maart 1921 te Derby getrouwd en hadden hun intrek genomen op de Quarry Road 24 te Somercotes.

Op 27 Juli 1922 is hun eerste zoon geboren, Alwyn.

The area was within the Norman Manor of Alfreton, and later within the Alfreton Urban District.

The years after the First World War were anything but stable. Economic depression and unemployment hit all parts of the country, the Alfreton Urban District was no exception. Uncertainty about the future also came with the sale of the various coal mines. Many of the collieries had by this time been closed, or had been merged into larger complexes. In 1920 only the deep mines of Cotes Park, New Birchwood [Shady], Lower Birchwood and the Swanwick Collieries were still open within the borough.

In the early 20th century, the population grew and families from all over the country came to live and work in the area. So did the Amos family.

George William Amos, born 1877, mine labourer by trade was married to Ada Pugh. Ada Pugh, born on the 9th of October 1894, was a war widow. Her first husband, Private John Thomas Price, died as a prisoner of war on the 31st of October, 1918 in Limerlé, municipality of Gouvy, in Belgium and is buried in the war cemetery in Heverlee. George and Ada were married in Derby on March 23, 1921, and had taken up residence at 24 Quarry Road, Somercotes. Their first son, Alwyn, was born on July 27, 1922.