

# V.E. day Family Story

**From Adam Wood Year 6 teacher Belleville Primary School**

I want to share my Grandmother's mini-story of how she met her husband. It is not extremely adventurous but I always liked it when she told the story as a kid.

My grandfather and my grandmother met in a secret bunker underneath what is now a hospital, but was at the time just a field, in West Yorkshire. The bunker was designed specifically for the 12 people who were, somehow, chosen to build/make/assemble the first radars used in Britain for the Chain Home. They were both sworn to secrecy and by signing the official secrets act at the time, it meant that you would be hung if you even mentioned the project to even your closest family members. From that enclosed space, my grandparents started a, no doubt, glamorous and thrilling romance that culminated in them proposing to each other in VE day.

The proposal came after they had completed their jobs on radar and my grandfather had returned to being a meteorologist for the RAF. In my romantic mind, his skills were used to help the forces on D-Day, but that's just wishful thinking on my part. In order to calculate the incoming weather, meteorologists at the time would fly up many thousands of meters higher than our jumbo-jets and the like fly these days in order to view the weather hundreds of miles away. They would then sketch (yes) what was going to happen and forward it to HQ to help dictate flying patterns and timings etc.

All fascinating stuff for a young me.