

Wartime West Sussex 1939 – 1945 RATIONING

Remembering rationing in Crawley

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About this time [1944] the supply of jackets passed down to me from three older brothers finally dried up. As clothes rationing was still in full swing there were no coupons available for another. My mother then kitted me out with a soldier's army tunic which she had dyed blue. The headmaster wasn't best pleased but I thought it rather fine.

Everything was still in short supply. Petrol and soap were rationed until 1950, only one ounce of cheese per person per week in 1952 and meat rationed until 1954. Butchers and fishmongers still wrapped your purchases for you: directly into a newspaper. The few cars seen on the road looked odd with large gas bags attached to the roof for fuel.

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