The Family of Alan Whorton and Beryl Mary Cooper

Alan Whorton was born on 3rd April 1927 in <u>Cannock</u>, Staffordshire Beryl Mary Cooper was born on 23rd March 1929 in <u>Cannock</u>, Staffordshire.

Alan's parents were <u>William Whorton & Winifred Alice Bagnall</u>.

Beryl's parents were <u>Samuel Joe Cooper and Alice Mary Bird</u>.

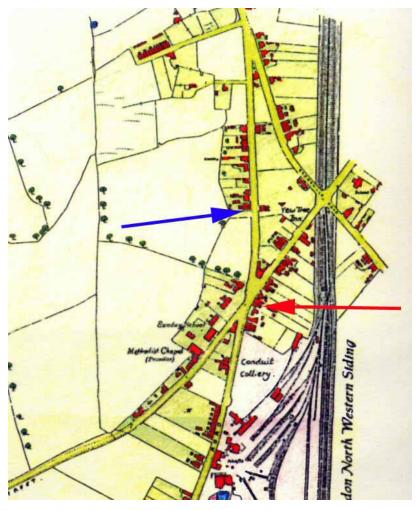
They were married on the 23rd December 1950

The Children of Alan and Beryl Whorton

Alan and Beryl had one son -

• Andrew John Whorton - born on 14th April 1952 - married three times - to <u>Carole Betty Tinsley in 1979</u>, <u>Susan Hitchings (Cooke) in 1994</u> and <u>Virginia Tacon in 1999</u>

Both Alan and Beryl both grew up in Norton Canes - in fact they lived just 200 yards apart with the Whorton Family living in the row of shops on the east side of Norton Square and the Cooper family living at 199 Hednesford Road - as shown by the red and blue arrows respectively on the following map



Beryl was the daughter of Sam and Mary Cooper - a mining family living in Norton Canes, Staffordshire – Sam actually spent 60 years working down the local coal mines and, himself, lived to the age of a hundred and three.

Alan was the son of William and Winifred Whorton who were storekeepers in Norton

The Cooper and Whorton families were very much local village families.

0.2 - Alan Whorton and Beryl Cooper

They Both went to school initially at Norton Canes but Beryl moved to a the Holy Rosary Convent School at Cannock and very early on decided she wanted to be a teacher

As a teenager Beryl learned to play the piano and sang in the school and local choir - she also took part in many sports - particularly hockey and tennis

Alan was also involved with music - singing in the church choir and becoming a barritone soloist. He was a keen cyclist and used to help his uncle Harry in the village bike shop on the square.

We have copies of a couple of reports he had from Norton Canes Senior Council School

1938

Position		Whori nd.	tor	December Age	11/2 yrs.	Class	I. 90% V.4
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	Grammar, etc.			V. Good	_ a		
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	Geometry			0. Lood		with.	
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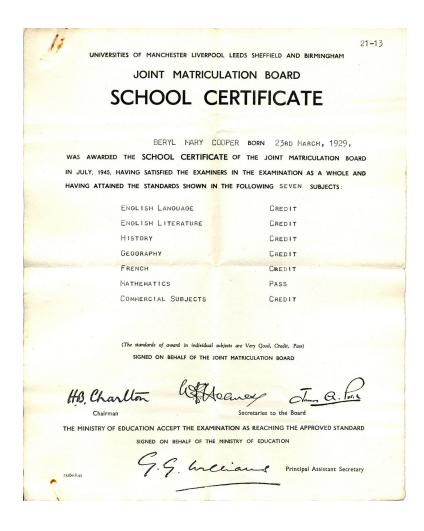
1939

Position	in Class 1	Whorst.	ton.	5th April 1939 Age 12472. Class I. mber in Class 42. Mark 100%
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		Term	Exam.	
	Composition		100	breellest
English .	Literature		100	Tycellent
	Grammar, etc.			Good but slow to learn
	Arithmetic		100	Ix ellest
MATHEMATICS -	Algebra			
	Geometry			
History .				V.Good
GEOGRAPHY .				VG. on the whole PR.
SCIENCE .				Good. W.J.B.
Mechanical Di	RAWING		3	
	(Wood	64	-	Good imposed A.A.J.
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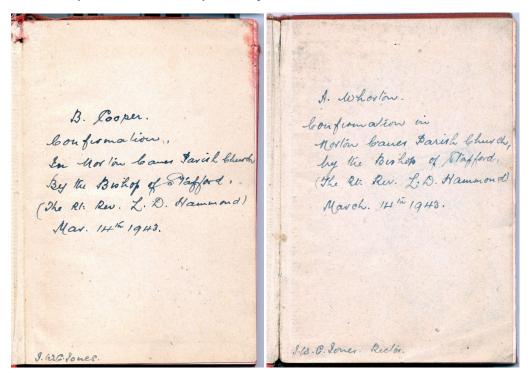
Between September 1942 and July 1944 Beryl completed a two year in General and Commercial Subjects at Wednesbury County Commercial College

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	PASS		
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We can see, from report books and the final certificate, that she continued at Wednesbury until Summer 1945



Alan and Beryl were both confirmed by the Bishop of Stafford at Norton Canes Parish Church on March 14th 1943



Alan was two years older than Beryl and lived just down the road – they had met before but came to know each other because he was in the church choir and the school choir merged with them for a Christmas concert in 1945. From then on they became inseparable

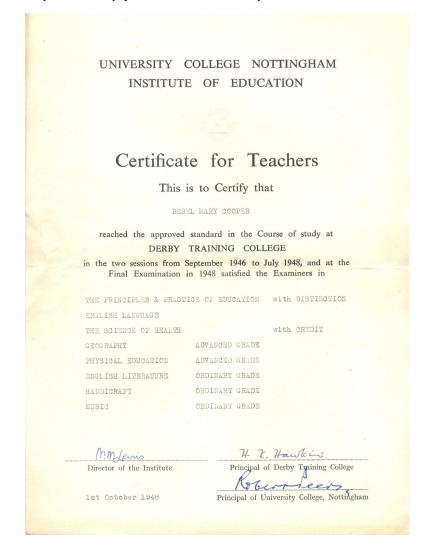
In 1946 Beryl went to Derby Teachers Training College where she continued to specialise in music and sport. Alan became an electrician at the local Jerome Colliery where the majority of the village were employed.

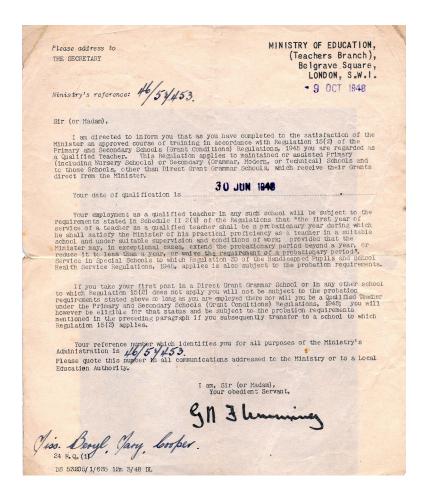
0.2 - Alan Whorton and Beryl Cooper

While Beryl was at college Alan and her would cycle 40 miles to meet each other at weekends and on one occasion missed each other on the way which ended up with her cycling all the way from Derby to Norton Canes and Alan all the way to Derby

During the two years that Beryl was at Derby Alan studied engineering at the Mining College in Cannock

Beryl became fully qualified as a teacher in July 1948





When Beryl qualified and left college she began her teaching career at Walsall Wood secondary school in July 1948

Around this time they bought a Tandem bike and did a lot of cycling including trips over the Welsh Mountains



Alan also had relatives at Middleton-on-the-Hill near Leominster and many visits wer made to see them and ride to market on Pony and Trap.

In 1948 Alan and Beryl visited Alans Uncle Milton and Aunt Enid in Torquay and saw the arrival of the Olympic Torch as it made its way toward the Wembley Stadium for the Summer Olympics - Torquay actually hosted the sailing events that year





Alan and Beryl became engaged on Christmas Day - 1948

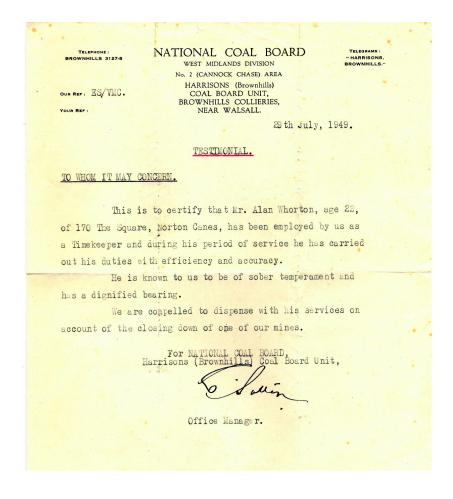


WHORTON—COOPER.— Congratulations to Alan and Beryl on their engagement, Christmas Day. From Mr. and Mrs. W. Harris.
WHORTON—COOPER.— Congratulations to Alan and Beryl on their engagement, Christmas Day. From Mr. and Mrs. Price, Alf and Rita.

WHORTON—COOPER. — Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, of Hednesford Road, Norton Canes, have the pleasure of announcing the engagement on Christmas Day of their only daughter Beryl to Alan, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Whorton, of Norton Canes. WHORTON—COOPER. — Congratulations to Beryl and Alan on their engagement. Love and best wishes for the future, Gran and Granddad.



In 1949 the local colliery where Alan worked was closed down - He was given this reference at the time of closure



Alan and Beryl were married on 23rd December 1950 at the Parish Church of St James in Norton Canes, Staffordshire.

Columns 1	L fames Kerle	3	4	5	0.	7	8
No. When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
	alan Whorlow	23	bacheer	Clerk	Dre Square Norlow Comes		
19 50	Beryl Mary Cooper	21	" spiristir		199 Herresford Red Norton Course	Samuel Joe Cooper	muier Cretico
	in churchocording						

Alans address was given as 170 The Square Norton Canes and Beryls as 199 Hednesford Road Norton Canes

There ages were given as 23 and 21 respectively

Alans father, William Whorton, was recorded as being a storekeeper and Beryls father, Samuel Joe Cooper, a retired miner

The two witnesses at the wedding were Alfred David Keay and Rita Price - the Best Man and Bridesmaid









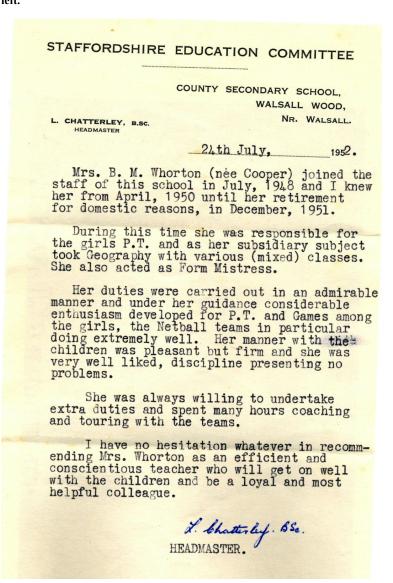


After they were married Alan and Beryl lived at 20 Chapel Street, <u>Heath Hayes</u> for a couple of years

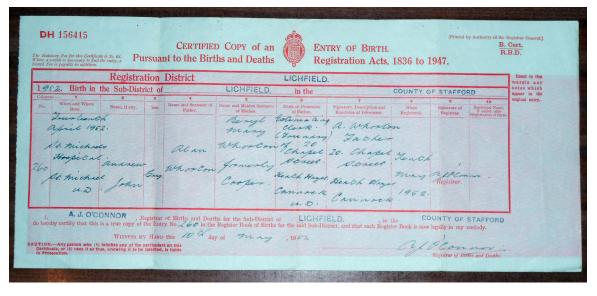
The house they lived in is on the corner straight ahead in the distance on the photo above

Transport now became motorised - first a motorbike (which dad loved) and then their first car - a Singer Bantam

Beryl Left Walsall Wood Secondary School at the end of December 1951 because she was having a baby. This was her testimonial when she left.

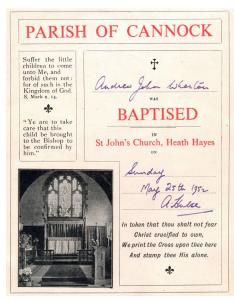


On 14th April 1952 thay had a son who they called Andrew John - he was born in the hospital at Lichfield

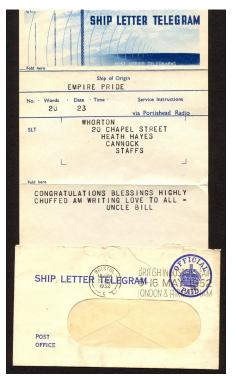


Andrew was christened at St John's Church, Heath Hayes on May 25th 1952

The photograph shows him with godparents - John Whorton, Kathleen Cross and Ron Whorton













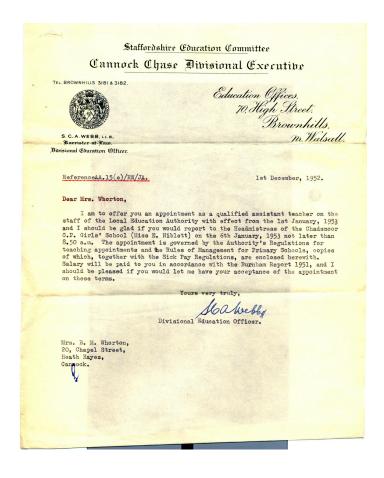
On 1st January 1953 Beryl Started work at Chadsmoor C P Girls School (actually starting on Jan 6th)

The family moved to 148 Lazy Hill Road, Aldridge in 1953





On 6th January 1953 Beryl Began Teaching at Chadsmoor C.P. Girls School



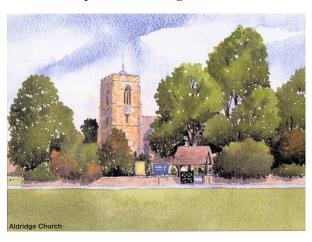
In 1955 they saw an advert in the local paper for someone who had this idea of forming an "Operatic Society" in Walsall.

They attended a meeting in Walsall and, from this, Walsall and District Operatic Society" was formed.

They were to take part part in shows for over 40 years and, in later years, they also joined Brownhills Choral Society and Brownhill Operatic Society.

Beryl became a teacher at the Aldridge, Cooper and Jordon, Church of England Endowed School and Andrew himself attended this school from 1956 to 1963

The school was just behind Aldridge Church



In 1958 a new school - Red House Primary School - was opened in Aldridge and Beryl went to teach there

They loved holidaying and had a number of caravans - and later in life motor caravans

In 1966 Andrew was confirmed at Lichfield Cathedral







In 1963 Andrew started at the Aldridge Grammar School







Alan and Beryl became well known for not only cooked meals but entertaining large groups of people with hot and cold buffets – particularly groups from the operatic Society.

Beryl would happily feed the 1000's ! and they would even turn up at outdoor events (in the motor caravan) and serve up cups of tea and cakes.

In 1969 they went abroad for the first time, driving to Kitzbuhel in Austria, and renting a villa for two weeks with friends of theirs.

This was a totally new experience for them and kicked off an interest in travelling further afield.

They were to go to Austria many times and also visit several other European countries.

In 1970 Andrew left school and started as a computer programmer at Tube Investments and, after a year there, went to the North Staffs Polytechnic to do a computing degree

In 1973 the family celebrated Andrews 21st Birthday with a party held in Stonnall Village Hall









In 1987 Beryl received a 25 year long service certificate from the Walsall Borough



In 1985 they were able to take part in celebrations for Beryl's father's One Hundredth Birthday with messages from the Queen and many other parties.





Beryl took early retirement when she was 57 having taught for nearly 40 years and Alan took retirement on health grounds

The following shows Alans employment history

WHORTON, Alan.
1148 Lazy Hill Road,
Aldridge,
WS9 8RR.

Date of Birth: 3.4.27.

Place of Birth: Norton Canes,

Education:

Primary and Secondary School, Norton Canes.
Mining College, Cannock: Mechanical and Electrical
Engineering.
Technical College, Wednesbury: Engineering Drawing.

Industrial Experience:

National Coal Board. 1942 - 1948. Electrical and Mechanical work.

Timekeeping, General Storekeeping and Dispensing of Explosives.

6 - /R5 - Explosives.

(Redundant due to closure of the colliery).

Tuke and Bell Ltd., Lichfield. 1948 - 1950. Progress work. Scheduling of all items for delivery from site

Scheduling of all items for delivery from site drawings.

2 YRs. drawings. (Left for advancement).

Brockhouse Castings Ltd., Wednesfield. 1950 - 1952.
Assistant Estimator: Calculation of casting weights from drawings and preparing quotations.
(Left for advancement).

Vowles Bros. Ltd., West Bromwich. 1952 - 1957.

Estimator: Responsibility for weight calculations of castings from drawings. Preparation of quotations and maintaining cost records. (Left for advancement).

J. H. Lavender and Co., Ltd., West Bromwich. 1957 - 1973.

Estimator: Calculation of weights from drawings, preparation of quotations and maintainance of costing records.

Some Drawing Office experience. Customer liason recasting methods and urgent deliveries. Visits to Heat-treatment firms with die blocks etc. and sorting out problems.

(Left for advancement).

H. and J. Hill Ltd., Willenhall. 1973 - 1980.

Estimator: Complete responsibility for weight calculations from drawings, preparation of quotations and costing of all items. Breakdown of monthly cost accounts to departmental cost and overheads to arrive at a cost per item.

Office Manager: Appointed to this position in 1975.

Responsibilities as above with the addition of the following: Preparation and payment of Staff wages.

Responsibility for payroll and banking arrangements, payment of accounts and petty-cash transactions.

Customer liason in respect of casting costs and prices.

Calculating packaging details for export and arranging transport to port of departure. Preparation of documents for Chamber of Commerce and Bank for exportation.

(Closure of Group led to redundancy).

16- YRS.

7- YRS

2- YRS.

Cab-Craft Ltd., Four Ashes. 1980 - 1982.

Piecework Controller: Checking of piecework prices and preparation of wages detail. Analysis of above for Financial Director.

(Redundant due to drastic cutting of workforce).

1982 - Freelance weight calculation for local foundries.

1983 - Wahall Aluminium foundries until retirement

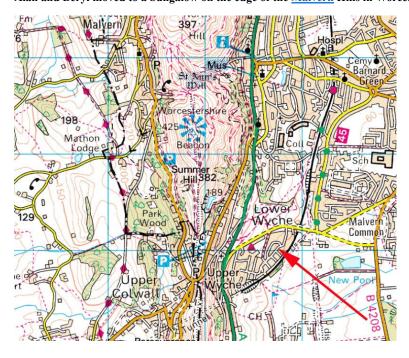
Personal Interests:
Music (Singing - choral and solo).
Member of Walsall Operatic Society.

Golf.

Travel, Photography, Walking.

They both took up bowls and played (and competed) with the Aldridge Bowls Club where they found many new friends

Alan and Beryl moved to a bungalow on the edge of the Malvern Hills in Worcestershire during August 2004



They continued to have holidays abroad but Alan couldn't drive the distances any more so they mixed coach holiday with flights to Mediterranean countries

Through all the years, in addition to travelling, Beryls main interests were music, painting, embroidery and cooking.

Friends

Fred and Betty Edwards



Fred and Betty were two of there closest friends over may years including holidays to Austria in 1969 & 1972 and having neighboring caravans at Berynharbour - this picture was taken during Beryls 80th Birthday Gathering at Honeybourne in 2009

Unfortunately Alan's health was to go downhill and he suffered a major stroke in June 2014 and pasing away 4 weeks later away at a nursing home in Malvern on July 28th 2014

	EATH Entry No. 30
Registration district Worcestershire	Administrative area
Sub-district Worcestershire	County of Worcestershire
Date and place of death Twenty-eighth July 2014 Court House Nursing Home Court Road Malvern	
2. Name and surname Alan WHORTON	3. Sex Male
Alai Wiokiok	4. Maiden surname
	of woman who has married
5. Date and place of birth Third April 1927	
Norton Canes Staffordshire 6. Occupation and usual address	
Estimator/Office Manager (Foundry) (retired) Husband of Beryl Mary WHORTON School Teacher (r 32 Fruitlands Malvern Worcestershire	etired)
7.(a) Name and surname of informant	(b) Qualification
Beryl Mary WHORTON	Widow of deceased Present at the death
(c) Usual address 32 Fruitlands Malvern Worcestershire	Tresent at the death
B M Whorton 9. Cause of death	of informan
I (a) Right Sided Stroke (Cardiovascular Accident) (b) Hypertension, Atrial Fibrillation	
I (a) Right Sided Stroke (Cardiovascular Accident)	
I (a) Right Sided Stroke (Cardiovascular Accident) (b) Hypertension, Atrial Fibrillation	
I (a) Right Sided Stroke (Cardiovascular Accident) (b) Hypertension, Atrial Fibrillation II Parkinsons Disease, Lewy Body Dementia Certified by Shakil Akhtar MB	
(a) Right Sided Stroke (Cardiovascular Accident) (b) Hypertension, Atrial Fibrillation II Parkinsons Disease, Lewy Body Dementia	11. Signature of registrar S S Hull Deputy Registrar

He was cremated at Worcester Crematorium on August 15th 2014

The Order of Service can be seen here

In 2017 Beryl moved from Malvern to a retirement complex at Broadway so as to be nearer family and take advantage of the warden support

She also had views over a beautiful garden without having the effort of maintain it

She had several health problems in later years and was also developing severe blindness

After being severely weakened by a bout of Coronavirus she passed away on July 31st 2022 at the age of 93

	DEATH 251
Registration district Worcestershire	DEATH Entry No. 251 Administrative area
Sub-district Worcestershire	County of Worcestershire
Date and place of death Thirty-first July 2022 Austen Court Care Home Davies Road Evesham	
2. Name and surname Beryl Mary WHORTON	3. Sex Female
Belyi May Wilokion	4. Maiden surname
	of woman who has married COOPER
5. Date and place of birth Twenty-third March 1929 Cannock Staffordshire	
 Occupation and usual address Teacher (retired) Widow of Alan WHORTON Weights and Measures Flat 19 Pegasus Court Station Road Broadway Worce 	Estimator (retired) estershire
7.(a) Name and surname of informant	(b) Qualification
Andrew John WHORTON	Son
(c) Usual address 6 Corner Farm Drive Honeybourne Evesham Worces 8. I certify that the particulars given by me above are true to the A J Whorton	
9. Cause of death	
I (a) Frailty of Old Age	
II Covid Pneumonia, Interstitial Lung Disease	
II Covid Pneumonia, Interstitial Lung Disease Certified by Sarah Bourns MB	
	11. Signature of registrar
Certified by Sarah Bourns MB	11. Signature of registrar Susan Perry Deputy Registrar
Certified by Sarah Bourns MB 10. Date of registration	Susan Perry

She was Cremated at The Vale Crematorium near Evesham on August 27th 2022

The Order Of Service can be seen here



Beryls ashes were scattered partially in Croom Park, on a walk that Alan and Beryl Loved to take





and partially on the family grave at St.James in Norton Canes