

War Buddies Can Now Relive Those Glory Days of '44

It seemed somehow a bit exotic to get a letter from Great Britain addressed to Ray Rollins Esq.

“Ah, Esquire, is it now?” It was from Cecil Madden (or “Sir Cecil,” as he has become fondly known here), from his residence at 3 Chesil Court, Chelsea Manor Street, London.

“I write to thank you and the Winston-Salem Journal,” said Madden, grateful for the recent help in tracking down Kenneth I. Tredwell, a former Winston-Salem resident and one of Madden’s favorite buddies from World War II.

Madden, former head of the British Broadcasting Corp., is 80 and is



putting together his memoirs — dealing in big part with the tragedy and heroics of a war that he and Tredwell found themselves very much involved in.

For Madden, who had searched diligently, Tredwell’s trail faded at 434 Westview Drive, where Tredwell had lived until heading to California, via Phoenix, 12 years ago.

The Journal and its Ramblin’ sleuth picked up the trail and got the Tredwell and Madden families back in sight of each other again.

“I am delighted to be in touch with him (Tredwell) and his family and to know all you mention about him,” Madden wrote.

“Luckily, all the information coincided, and after so long we can be in touch again.”

Tredwell and Madden worked together on BBC Radio during the war on a program called “American Eagle in Britain” — interviews with American fighting men in broadcasts beamed to their families back home.

“He (Tredwell) was a splendid interviewer for flying men as well as the celebrated ‘roving microphone’ which brought so many GIs and their families together,” Madden wrote.

“Being able to be in touch again, Madden added, has “brought back the days of 1944 in London when we were all so assailed by the enemy V-1 flying bombs . . . the USO camp shows (that) sent such stars as Marlene Dietrich, Bing Crosby, Gertrude Lawrence . . . the performances of Maj. Glenn Miller.”

Scott Tredwell, a son of Kenneth Tredwell, still lives in Winston-Salem and has flown to visit his now-ailing father in California.

It was a time for reflection on

days gone by . . . a time for memories.

“It was a poignant visit,” he said. Possibly a final visit.

And young Tredwell is grateful for Cecil Madden’s historical tribute to Kenneth Tredwell, father and hero.

A new Kiwanis Club has been organized in Clemmons, and the club is to receive its charter at banquet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Tanglewood Country Club.

The new chapter is being sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Winston-Salem and is the fifth chapter in what is known as the greater Winston-Salem area.

Ralph Patterson of Clinton, S.C., Kiwanis International district governor, is to speak.

Carroll Hickman of Clemmons will be the chapter’s first president.

A variety of community organizations in northwest Forsyth County are planning a joint Memorial Day celebration at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Old Richmond Grange Hall.

Participants will include the Old Town Concert Band, directed by Jqe Conrad; Boy Scout Troop 946; the local 4-H Club; the Old Richmond Grange; the Rev. John F. Edwards; and the American Legion Post 290 of King.

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