



The wedding of Tom Solesbury & Grace Bates at St Mary, Bletsoe, in 1942.

L to R: Josie Price, Joy Cranfield (mn Storch), Reginald Corn, Colin Deas (age 7), Tom Solesbury, Grace Solesbury (nee Bates), Stanley Bates, Nancy Cranfield (mn Osborne), Betty Jaquest

BLETSOE

WEDDING: SOLESBURY--BATES

On 18th July, Mr. Reginald Thomas Solesbury, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Solesbury, of Bletsoe, and Miss Grace Lilian Bates, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Bates, of "The Haydens", Bletsoe, were married in Bletsoe Parish Church. It was the best-attended and prettiest wedding in the parish for many years, the church being beautifully decorated for the occasion.

The choir escorted the bridal party from the porch to the chancel arch, and after the hymn "The Voice that breathed o'er Eden", the marriage was solemnized by the Rector, the Rev. A. Cheetham. The choir also sang the 67th Psalm, and the hymn "Lead us, Heavenly Father." Miss Green, for many years organist at the church, played for the service.

The reception was at the home of the bride's parents.

The bride was attired in a dress of white lace, with a veil and orange blossom, and carried pink roses and maidenhair fern.

The bridesmaids were Miss Betty Jaquest, Miss Nancy Cranfield, Miss Joy Cranfield, and Miss Josie Price, with Jill Rosemary Stanton and Colin Deas as attendants. Two of the bridesmaids wore pink satin, the other two being in blue taffeta.

The bridegroom wore the uniform of the R.A.O.C., and his best man was Aircraftman Reginald Corn. Mr. Stanley Bates gave his sister away.