

70 years ago

October 21 1944

Through a relaxation of security requirements, it is now possible to give details of bombing raids on this area since the beginning of the war. There was only one fatality in North Cornwall: at St Breward in August 1942, when a child died after being injured in a tip-and-run raid with bombs and machine gun cannon fire; four buildings were demolished, including the Sunday Schoolroom and 58 houses were damaged. There were three other raids at St Breward, all in May 1941. Launceston Borough had only one raid, four bombs being dropped at Park Lanson, St Stephen's, in November, 1940, but they fell in a field and no one was hurt. In the Camelford area, bombs were dropped at St Teath, Jetwells (twice), Fenteroon, Advent, Highertown, Alex Tor and Michaelstow. Stoke Climsland, Blackapitts (South Petherwin), Larrick (Lezant) and Trekelland were places

where other bombs fell without great damage and in 1942 a stick of bombs was dropped between Hawks Tor and Bearah Tor, North Hill. Fowls were killed in September 1940, when one bomb was dropped at Trehill, Stoke Climsland, and another single one came down near Peppershill, Werrington, without damage. A string of incendiaries was dropped between Landlake and Lewannick in August 1940, but the greatest activity was on May 28, 1941, when bombs were dropped on Pengelly, Delabole (one house demolished, six damaged); Helstone; Trearne (Camelford); the Duchy Home Farm, Stoke Climsland; Penally Point, Boscastle; Abbots Hendra, St Clether; Treglith, Treneglos. It was on August 9, 1940, that the first bombs fell in the area — in a line from St Juliot to Lewannick, but the only casualty was a horse. They dropped at Trewonnett (St Juliot), Helset, Tregurron (St

Clether), Trenarre Trerithick and three places at Lewannick. An oil bomb and four high explosives were dropped on Treburlan Altarnun, later the month, but the biggest shower was one of the incendiaries on May 3, 1942, between Smallacombe Farm and North Lodge, Lifton. Bude people remember May 6, 1941, when a stick of high explosives was dropped on the town, in a line from Hollabury Road to Poughill; houses were damaged, but there were only three slight casualties. In October 1940 eight HEs were dropped in the sea or on the cliffs and two daylight raiders came in August 1940 dropping bombs and machine gunning a bus. Hellaton and Stanbury Farms, Morwenstow, and Thurdon and Darracott, Kilkhampton, also received raids, as did Northmoor Farm, Whitstone, but as stated above, throughout the whole district, there was only one fatality — that of the child at St Breward.