

# IT'S WAR! LITTLE WEIRWOLD REACTS!

**The people of Little Weirwold have reacted to news that Britain and France are at war with Germany following the invasion of Poland two days ago.**

**By Tim Collins, Little Weirwold Gazette**

The people of Little Weirwold have reacted with shock following the announcement that Britain and her Allies have declared war on Germany. Gathered in the local church shortly after 11.15am, people heard Neville Chamberlain confirm that Germany had failed to acquiesce to the reasonable terms set out by the British government and therefore an inevitable state of war had to be declared.

Speaking from the cabinet room at 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister reported that the British ambassador had earlier handed a final note to the German government stating Germany had to withdraw from Poland by 11am. Failure to do so, it stated, would result in a state of war between the two countries. He went on to explain that as no such agreement had been received the UK is now at war with Germany.

Following the prime minister's announcement, King George, who reacted to the news with calm determination, gave these words of encouragement, "There may be dark days ahead, but with God's help we shall prevail."

Locally there was mixed reaction to the news. Mrs Hartridge, wife of a Royal Air Force pilot, spoke of her own fear: 'My Mr. Hartridge has been called already. I hope and pray he and his brave colleagues will be okay.'



Neville Chamberlain made the announcement live on the BBC last night.

Thomas Oakley, long-time local resident said: 'I spose it was probably inevitable were'n it? What with all the children being evacuated.' He added, 'We must all do our duty when the time comes'.

Elsewhere, today's declaration of war was received with rousing cheers. In the streets of London it was received with great enthusiasm and in the Polish capital, Warsaw, crowds took to the streets outside the British and French embassies cheering and singing.

At this stage, it is unclear what is going to happen next however across Little Weirwold preparations have become commonplace: construction of Anderson shelters, erection of blackout blinds and the presence of ARP (Air Raid Precaution) wardens have quickly become the norm.