



**Victory in Europe party outside 6 Oldfield Road in May 1945**



**Victory over Japan party in 1945, again outside 6 Oldfield Road**

At the time, even as a young boy I realised that food was scarce, but I did not know the extent of rationing during wartime, which included not only food, but clothing, petrol and many other items. One Xmas all I received was a wooden toy, sweets, an apple and an orange. This was very little for Xmas, but I did not feel deprived, because all my friends had received similar gifts. Coal and coke were also rationed and very often Billy and I would wheel an old pram about two miles to a coal yard and stand in line for coal or coke for our solitary fireplace. The coal yard was across Moseley Road and into Edward Road past the police station.