

# Castle Comfort Clarion

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## APPEAL BY NORMANDY VETERAN !!

### Does anyone recognise this man?

The Clarion regularly quizzes Castle Comfort's staff about goings on at this thriving and growing business - and always of particular interest is news of remarkable and outstanding characters who come along - and in needing the services of CCC, become not just customers - but friends. None more so than 84 years' young Mr ERNEST FROST of Bradwell.

Pure pride oozes from ex-Normandy veteran Ernie as he enthusiastically relates his wartime experiences. On weighing up his ability to manage a CCC Vaya-Bien scooter the firm's advisors were told to "belt up ... if I can handle a tank" declared Ernest "I can drive anything".

Despite being seriously and permanently injured through shrapnel damage, the veteran's sense of humour wasn't affected. The youngest of 12 children he claims he would have been born much earlier but had a shy father! On a more serious note, Ernie was among those to witness the horrors of Belsen and he attended the post-war tribunal in November 1945 which

resulted in the hanging of 13 perpetrators. He modestly dismisses his collection of five medals as being par for the course, yet deservedly displays them at every opportunity.

Ernie was a pupil of Hassall Street School in Newcastle and wants to know if any of his former school colleagues are still around or indeed if anyone in North Staffordshire recognises him from his wartime stint and would like to make contact. HE WAS IN THE 6TH BATTALION 59 DIVISION 176 BRIGADE.

Calls are awaited at The Clarion from anyone who experienced those bygone years and would like to be put in touch. We'll be delighted to arrange a reunion.

**Ernest is pictured here with his medals, Normandy badges and his latest vehicular acquisition. The Clarion and CCC teams send him best wishes... and VAYA-BIEN! (May you go well).**



## IT'S CLARION TIME AGAIN! -

and we hope you like the new compact look with double the pages. When the very first Clarion newspaper came out two years ago never in our wildest dreams did we think of building up to a circulation of 100,000. The reader response and local businesses wishing to renew their advertising with us has made it possible. Wolstanton-based Castle Comfort Centre have, for the third year running, doubled their turnover and we'd like to think that our popular family

bulletin has helped in promoting their good name. In fact the secret is already out ... this innovative family-run business is expected to shortly have branches UK wide. The CCC style, community newspaper to match, its products and level of service will become, through its franchise operation, a national brand - quite an achievement in just a few years with the original idea emerging from an abandoned old bank building!

This edition of The Clarion contains many of the previous features, competitions and articles relating to an important subject for all of us - our health. Our own NHS in the area often comes under scrutiny but we'd like to put things into perspective; so let's begin, in this issue, with the first of our series of reports, starting on page 5, on just how other countries manage their health - or don't! Read on ...

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