

OPERATION JANTZEN EVENT

In 1943 a large area of Saundersfoot and Amroth was taken over by the military in order that Soldiers could practise for the D Day landings in 1944. For several weeks the area was under military control. Exercise Jantzen, a rehearsal for the landing of troops and supplies, was carried out.

There was a curfew and all correspondence was censored. Visitors to the area were told to leave and many of the larger buildings were commandeered for use by military staff. St. Brides Hotel was used as a Signals Training School for the Royal Marines, with many personnel being billeted in the local hotels.

The beaches were full of army landing craft and Winston Churchill came to the area to watch the manoeuvres.

As part of government drives to collect scrap metal for the war effort, many of the metal fittings of the harbour no longer in use such as coal chutes were collected to be melted down. The Rosalind was also sent for scrap.

The fact that so many servicemen visited the area led to a boom in tourism in later years, when many of them revisited with their families on holidays - with many marrying and settling in the area.