

The Royal Train at Ashford Railway Works

My Father-in-law Slim, told me the intriguing story of how the Royal Train came to be stabled in Ashford Railway Works during the War, rather than in the London area. It was safely locked up, maybe even camouflaged a little, and tucked away in a quiet part of the works, safe from any unauthorized visitors.

However, since Ashford Works contained several hundred of the finest metal working craftsmen in the Country, it was not long before a suitable key was produced, and a select number of visitors admitted to see the Royal Train interior facilities.

But apparently, worse was to come. It became the most desirable and elegant place for a young man to take his young lady friend, and possibly more mature couples, also. It would seem that the soft furnishings of the Royal Coaches saw considerable wartime action, purely to keep the coaches fresh and aired and ready for immediate use, should the Royal Family wish to do so, being the given explanation.

However, it lingers in the mind that some of the wartime babies in the Ashford area, may well have an interesting Royal connection, should their parents become a little indiscreet concerning their conception.

Glynn C. Davis. Clerical Officer, Ashford Railway Works

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