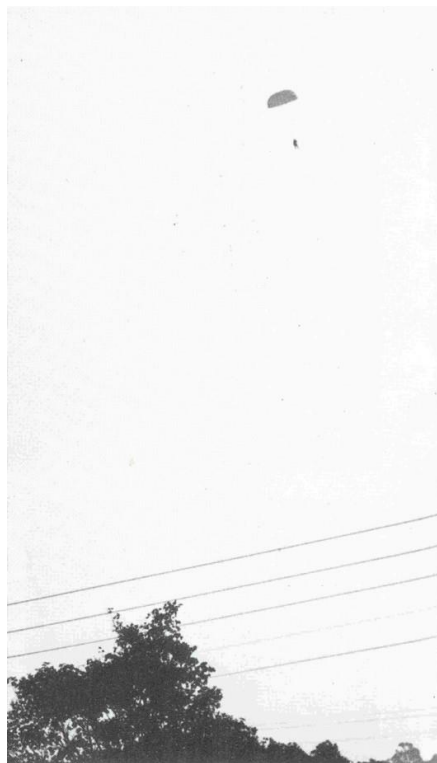




**Dr Hunter-Smith**

Elham's Irish doctor, Timothy Twomey, decided to return to his neutral homeland at the end of 1939. His successor, the twenty-eight year old Conrad Hunter-Smith, had the unenviable task of finding himself around his large practice in the severe winter of 1940. He held regular surgeries at Barham as well as in the house that Dr Twomey had built, which Hunter-Smith named Aykley Heads after the place in Scotland where he had spent his honeymoon. He carried a camera in his car and was able to record some of the incidents as the Battle of Britain raged overhead, including this photograph of the German air ace Priebe shot down over Elham at 09:30 on Saturday 31/08/1940.



He was to remain Elham's hard working and conscientious G.P. for thirty years. He had battled addiction to drink and drugs throughout his career, and it was known that he was about to be prosecuted for drugs offences. However he retained the trust of his patients, and so many people attended his retirement presentation at the old Village Hall in 1970 that a large number had to stand outside.