

1 RALPH: I'm dreadfully sorry my dear but I don't have time for
2 your riddles now, I'll be late.

3 DOROTHEA: We'll be late.

4 RALPH: And you made me a promise.

5 DOROTHEA: I beg your pardon?

6 RALPH: To love, honour, and obey

7 DOROTHEA: Are you suggesting we take this moment to discuss
8 our wedding vows?

9 RALPH: No, not now. I don't have time.

10 DOROTHEA: So do you mean that you're forbidding me to go a
11 public meeting?

12 RALPH: No.

13 DOROTHEA: Well, come on then, or we'll be late.

14 RALPH: Very well, if you insist on coming.

15 DOROTHEA: I do.

16 **FX** **RALPH OPENS THE DOOR**

17 RALPH: After you.

18 DOROTHEA: No, after you.

19 RALPH: I wasn't instructing you I was being chivalrous.

20 DOROTHEA: Like most things to do with the sexes you wouldn't
21 know how.

RALPH: I do so very much regret th00200E TJETt th00200E Tf1 0 0 1 0.163

RALPH: She is only suggesting women get the vote not that

1 **SCENE 2. INT. TOWN HALL. 7.00. PM**

2 **FX: CHAIRS SCRAPING, PEOPLE COMING IN**
3 **FINDING A SEAT, SITTING WITH FRIENDS**
4 **APPROXIMATELY A HUNDRED PEOPLE**
5 **TALKING IN THE BACKGROUND UNTIL THEY**
6 **ARE HUSHED.**

7 GABRIEL: (SHOUTS TO BE HEARD ABOVE THE DIN) Ladies
8 and gentlemen! A bit of hush if you please. Thank
9 you. And thank you to you all for turning out in such
10 number. I know not everyone who'd said they'd
11 come is here yet but, as we know, time and tide wait
12 for no man. So I think that perhaps we should make
13 a start. I'd like to welcome Sergeant Major Ivor
14 Davies who has come to talk to us this evening
15 about billeting.

HILARY, RALPH AND DOROTHEA COME IN

1 IVOR: Ladies and Gentlemen thank you for turning out on
2 this cold night and in such numbers but your country
3 needs you, or more accurately those serving your
4 country need your hospitality. We are looking this
5 evening for those with a spare room, a spare bed or
6 a camp bed to volunteer to billet one of our boys.
7 Because here in Folkestone we are very short of
8 accommodation.

9 MAN 1: (SHOUTS) What about the Sandling Huts?

10 IVOR: Those that haven't already collapsed have been so
11 badly built the men are freezing in them.

12 MAN 3: (CALLS) But they've only just been built.

13 MAN 2: (CALLS) Wasn't Mr Pearce in charge of the work?

14 HILARY: As you may or may not remember, the Sandling
15 Huts had to go up very quickly because there was a
16 very sudden need.

17 MAN 3: (CALLS) What were they built out of then,
18 cardboard?

19 MAN 1: Back-handers more like.

20 HILARY: Gentlemen, please, the meeting started late and
21 we've got a lot to get through.

22 **FX** **HILARY LOOKS AT HIS NEW POCKET WATCH**

23 MAN 2: (HECKLES) Nice new pocket watch you've got
24 there councillor.

25 GABRIEL: (SHOUTING OVER THE JEERS) May I remind the
26 meeting that Mr Pearce did an excellent job of
27 getting the huts up so quickly.

28 MAN 1: Lining his pockets in the process.

1 GABRIEL: Those huts were never intended to be in service for
2 the worst of the winter weather and Mr Pearce is
3 now working hard on new sturdier accommodation.

4 IVOR: (OVER) But in the meantime please, please, if you
5 can provide a roof for someone who is fighting for
6 your country and your family, please come forward
7 and sign up now. I would add that there is financial
8 remuneration for those doing so but only those who
9 sign will find out what it is. We are keen that this is
10 an act of patriotism not greed.

11 MAN 3: Tell that to Hilary Pearce.

12 **FX: MUTTERS OF 'ALL RIGHT.' 'GOOD IDEA.'**
13 **'LEAST WE CAN DO' AS PEOPLE SHUFFLE**
14 **FORWARD TO SIGN UP TO THE SCHEME.**

15 GABRIEL: Ladies and gentlemen I propose we all now join
16 together in singing the National Anthem.

17 ALL SING: GOD SAVE OUR GRACIOUS KING, LONG LIVE
18 OUR NOBLE KING, GOD SAVE THE KING. SEND
19 HIM VICTORIOUS, HAPPY AND GLORIOUS,
20 LONG TO REIGN OVER US, GOD SAVE THE
21 KING.

22 IVOR: Please come forward and sign up.

23 DOROTHEA: (TO RALPH) I think we should billet someone don't
24 you?

25 RALPH: I'll think about it.

26 DOROTHEA: We have that building at the bottom of the garden.

27 MRS GRIMES: Vicar, I'm wondering if I might have a quick word,
28 please?

RALPH:

1 DOROTHEA: No, but I expect it helps – believing in an afterlife.

2 RALPH: You talk as though you'd lost your faith.

3 DOROTHEA: Oh no. If I didn't think there was something better
4 after this, then I believe I should never get out of bed
5 again.

6 **ISABEL COMES OVER TO RALPH AND**
7 **DOROTHEA.**

8 ISABEL: Good evening.

9 DOROTHEA: Good evening, Isabel.

10 ISABEL: Thank you again for Freddie's service, Ralph.

11 RALPH: How are your parents bearing up?

12 ISABEL: You know Father seems almost back to his old self
13 but I've never known mother sadder.

14 DOROTHEA: I'm sorry to hear that.

15 ISABEL: Thank you too for coming, Dorothea.

16 DOROTHEA: I just couldn't not go.

17 ISABEL: Mother's been so touched by how many people have
18 paid their respects

19 RALPH: Maybe I should pay her a visit?

20 ISABEL: Oh would you, then you can give me a lesson.

21 RALPH: A lesson?

22 ISABEL: I've bought a car.

23 RALPH: Have you?

24 ISABEL: Yes, an Argyll and although the salesman showed
25 me how to use it, when I'm on my own in it, it seems

HOME FRONT II – EP 3

1 **SCENE 3. INT. THE HALL. 2 MINS LATER.**

2 **DOROTHEA GOES OVER TO IVOR WHO'S**
3 **SITTING BEHIND THE DESK TAKING DOWN**
4 **PEOPLE'S NAMES**

5 IVOR: So how many can I put you down for Mrs Winwood

6 DOROTHEA: Three.

7 IVOR: Three?

8 DOROTHEA: I think we should be seen to set an example.

9 IVOR: Excellent. Thank you. I know you have a nice big
10 vicarage.

11 DOROTHEA: Though it's probably draughtier than Sandling.

12 IVOR: I'm just wondering what else to put on the form in
13 terms of your suitability.

14 DOROTHEA: I'm sorry Sergeant Major Davies but I believe that I
15 am neither use nor ornament.

16 IVOR: Now I'm sure that isn't true, at all, not at all but I
17 meant what might be relevant for the sort of person
Real15

HOME FRONT II

1 DOROTHEA: You promised me.

2 RALPH: But it was Freddie's burial. Isabel is his sister, and I
3 am the vicar. What else could I have done?

4 DOROTHEA: Got a curate.

5 RALPH: One can't just get a curate at a moment's notice.

6 DOROTHEA: But one can just break one's promises any time one
7 likes.

8 RALPH: So that's why you deliberately disobeyed me and
9 signed us up to billeting three soldiers.

10 DOROTHEA: I thought one of us might as well try and show some
11 Christian principles.

12 RALPH: But how are we going to manage, now with Kitty
13 gone, and where are they going to sleep?

14 DOROTHEA: We can get a new under-maid and we have the
15 outhouse.

16 RALPH: That's in an even worse condition than the Sandling
17 huts.

18 DOROTHEA: Then why don't you do it up, and get a curate to
19 carry on with your duties in the parish.

RALPH:

