**Historical Context of IDAS Events**

Bill Barton, FRAS, 03 August 2018

| **IDAS Events** | **National UK Events** | **International Events** |
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|  | 01 January 1949 healthy males aged 17 to 21 subject to conscription for 18 months |  |
| 15 January 1949 D J Fulcher secretary of I&DNHS Astronomy Section |  |  |
|  | 15 March 1949 clothing rationing ends | April 1949 NATO formed |
| 21 January 1950 IDAS separates from I&DNHS, R L T Clarkson President |  |  |
|  | 23 February 1950 election Labour win a five-seat majority under Clement Attlee |  |
|  | 26 May 1950 petrol rationing ends |  |
|  |  | 25 June 1950 Korean War breaks out |
|  | October 1950 conscription period increased to two years |  |
|  | 25 October 1951 Election Conservatives win a 17-seat majority under Winston Churchill |  |
|  | 06 February 1952 King George VI dies, Elizabeth II becomes Queen |  |
| October 1952 E H Collinson elected BAA President |  |  |
|  | February 1953 confectionary rationing ends |  |
|  |  | 27 July 1953 Korean War ends |
| 10 April 1954 R L T Clarkson dies |  |  |
|  | 04 July 1954 meat and all other food rationing ends |  |
| October 1954 E H Collinson gives up BAA Presidency |  |  |
| February 1955 E H Collinson elected IDAS President |  |  |
| 23 April 1955 D J Fulcher stands down as Secretary, C R Munford takes over |  |  |
|  | 26 May 1955 Election  Conservatives win a 60-seat majority under Harold Macmillan |  |
| September 1955 C R Munford temporarily leaves Ipswich area, Secretary post vacant | 22 September 1955 Independent Television launched in London |  |
|  |  | 29 October-07 November 1956 Suez Crisis |
|  | 1957 Conscription starts to be phased out |  |
| Mid-1957 IDAS inactive |  |  |
|  |  | 04 October 1957 Sputnik 1 launched |
|  |  | 03 November 1957 Sputnik 2 launched |

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