

Men and Women from East Farndon who Served in World War II

The village had a 'Welcome Home Committee', and at the end of the war they gave a grant of £10/6s (half a guinea) to 36 men and women in the village who had served. The following are some of these men and women:

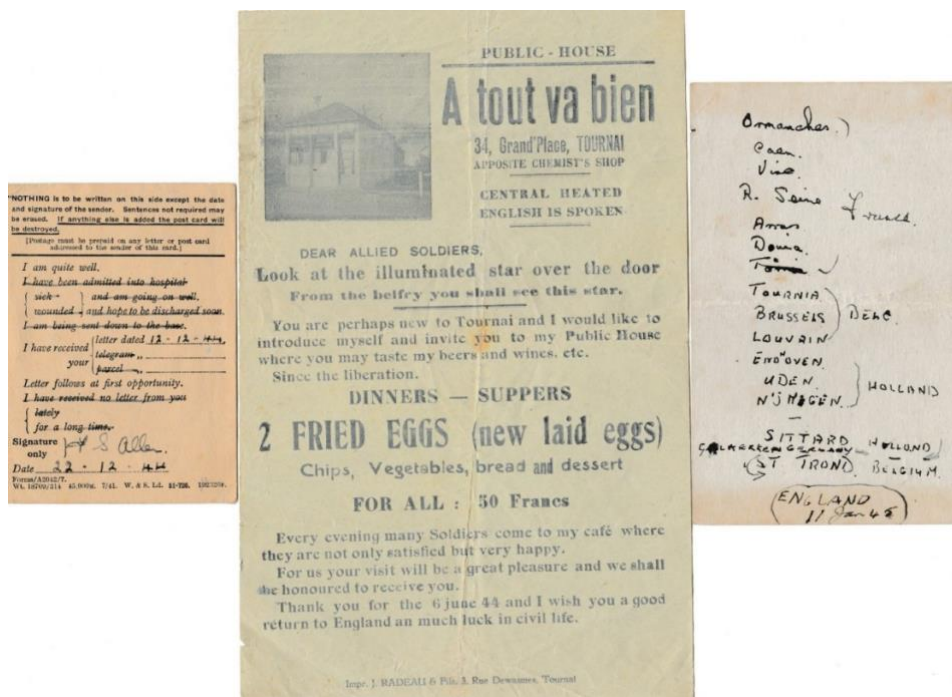
Frederick Stanley Allen

Fred was the father of Pam Haynes (The Haybarn, Main Street). He served in the 2nd Grenadier Guards battalion and was part of the Guards Armoured Division. He was already in the army when war broke out, serving from 18 July 1938 to 29 May 1946.

His certificate of service for this part of World War II shows NWE (North West Europe) from 29 June 1944 to 4 March 1946. He served in Caen, Arras, Tournai (see public house leaflet), Louvain, France, Belgium, Holland, back to Belgium and then home to England.

The Corps took part in Operation Goodwood, Market Garden, the Battle of the Bulge and Operation Veritable, before ending up around Bremen when the surrender of the Germans was announced.

The following photos are: an example of a postcard he was allowed to send home, which was a way of saying "I'm still ok", a public house leaflet and a list of places he went to.



Roy Allen

James Edward (Ted) Andrews

Ted was born in 1913 and lived in The Lealand



Ted's son (Ted) at his father's war memorial in Thiepval, France, where he fell in 1917 when Ted was 4.

William Michael John (Mick) Belton

Mick was born on 14th January 1926.

He joined the Royal Navy in 1944 before D-Day. He had tried to join up before, but had been rejected due to his eyesight. At the second attempt to enlist, he was by then a partially-trained civilian electrician, and so they took him and continued his training as an electrician.

He was posted to Portsmouth just before D-Day and was on standby to pilot a landing craft, but fortunately was not required to perform that duty.

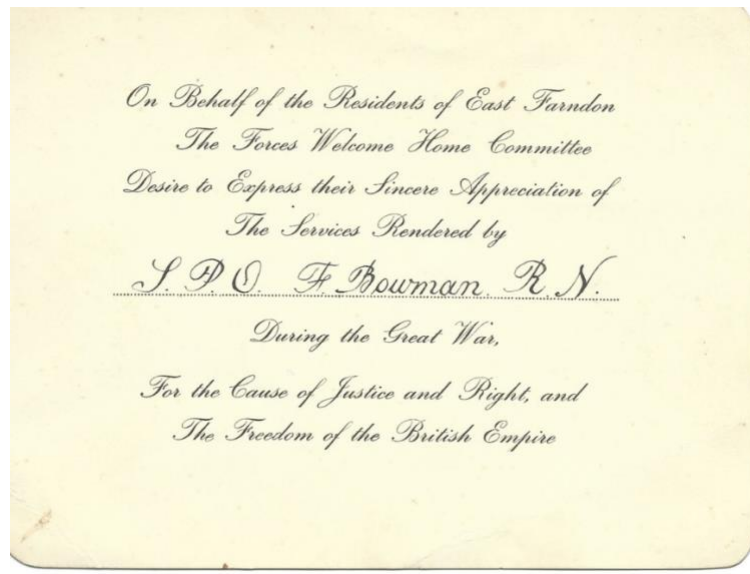
He was then posted to HMS London (part of the Pacific Fleet). HMS London was involved in attacking some land-based targets. On Japan's surrender, a Japanese admiral boarded HMS London to conduct a surrender ceremony. Some comedian filched the admiral's flag and the admiral refused to sign the surrender until the flag was returned (thus jeopardising world peace). See photos below.

After that, Mick spent some time in Australia, having delivered a landing craft there. Finally, he served as the electrician on a mine-sweeper off the Burma coast.





Fred Bowman



Fred was married to Margaret (Marg) Wintersgill, and they lived at 3 The Lealand for many years. He served in the Royal Navy.

Ray Clifford

Served in the RAF

Leonard Dunkley



It was reported in the local paper on 29th December 1944 that Private Leonard Dunkley, whose home address was the Council Houses, East Farndon, but now of Dalton, Rotherham,

was honoured by the United States by receiving the Presidential Citation Ribbon from Lt. Colonel Maurice E Parker of the 15th A.A.F.

Mr Dunkley was attached to the celebrated group of the A.A.F. for special duty, and was probably the only man in the British army to be awarded this ribbon, signifying that his unit was cited by the President of the United States “for heroic duty against the enemy”. The ribbon is the only American award worn on the right breast.

William (Bill) George Haynes



WILLIAM (BILL) GEORGE HAYNES

ARMY No:-10559414

RANK:-PRIVATE

D.O.B 02.10.1921

D.O.D.20.08.1994

Born in the village at Fern Cottage and then lived at New House Farm and lastly at Sunny bays.

He enlisted on 31.07.1941 and was assigned to No 5 Training Battalion R.A.O.C based in Halifax Yorkshire.

In December 1941 Japan entered the war, the Allies were concerned that India was in danger from Japanese advances.

20.03.1942:- Bill embarked from Pembroke dock, South Wales as part of the 2ND Infantry Division, bound for India.

17.05.1942:-Disembarked India and proceeded to Karachi.

He drove convoy lorries from India into Burma. (See picture)

Bill was severely injured (burns) 15.04.1945 when a phosphorus grenade exploded in the back of the lorry he was driving.

He returned to the U.K on 03.12.1945 after 3 years and 259 days abroad. .

Discharged to army reserves: - 30.12.1946.

Medals 1939-45 War Medal

1939-45 Burma Star

1939-45 Star

1939-45 Defence Medal

Dick Hill

Dick served in Bethlehem and brought back a statue for his brother's wife, Greta Hill.



Ernest (Ernie) Hill



Gordon Hill



Herbert Hill



Herbert served in the RAF. He was injured while loading ammunition, and didn't serve abroad.

Leonard (Len) Hill



Joe Nichols

Son of Mrs C Nicholls of the Post Office, East Farndon. In a letter to the local paper printed on 24th May 1946, Mrs Nichols said that he was still serving in the Forces in Leeds.

Peter Nichols

Served in the Royal Navy. Son of Mrs C Nicholls of the Post Office, East Farndon. In a letter to the local paper printed on 24th May 1946, Mrs Nichols said that he was still serving in Shanghai.

Ernest (Ernie) R Piggin

Ernie was born on 27th January 1918 to John and Minnie Piggin. The family lived at a house by the bridleway near the Judith Stone field. Ernie was born there and the family left in 1923; the last people to live there. The house was called “Spicer’s Lodge” and it served as a farmer’s shed for a time but was knocked down, Ernie said in 1978. (See photo below):



(Hubert) Jim Shellard

Son of Mrs A Shellard of White Cottage, East Farndon (now Spring View). Served in the Far East.

Nancy Shellard

Daughter of Mrs A Shellard of White Cottage, East Farndon (now Spring View). Served in the WAAF and was subsequently demobbed.

Raymond Shellard

Son of Mrs A Shellard of White Cottage, East Farndon (now Spring View). Served in India.

Victor Shellard

Son of Mrs A Shellard of White Cottage, East Farndon (now Spring View).

Brigadier Sir Alexander (Alex) Beville Gibbons Stanier, 2nd Baronet of Peplow Hall

It is thought that Sir Alex lived at The Limes, Back Lane, during World War II.

He was born on 31st January 1899 in Market Drayton, Shropshire and served in the British army between 1917 and 1948, during both world wars. He commanded the 2nd Battalion, Welsh Guards, 223rd Independent Infantry Brigade, 3rd Parachute Brigade, 183rd Infantry Brigade, 231st Infantry Brigade and the 69th Infantry Brigade.

He received the Distinguished Service Order (22nd October 1940) and Bar (29th March 1945), the Military Cross (1st April 1919), Commander of the Order of Leopold II (Belgium 1948), Croix de Guerre with Palm (Belgium 1948), Silver Star (United States 20th June 1944), Legion of Honour (France 1988). He was particularly distinguished for his actions at Boulogne in 1940, on D-Day in 1944, and in the Rhineland in 1944.

Sir Alex was in charge of planning the assault on one of the beaches, and in later years he showed the original maps to Cameron Fraser.

Photo below: Sir Alex with General Montgomery. Sir Alex had just received the Silver Star from U.S. Lieutenant General Omar Bradley (centre) in Normandy.





Peter Tailby

On the 1939 Register, Peter was living with his parents Frank (55) and Charlotte (51), and his sister Alice Jean (12).

Norman Ward

Norman lived at Farrar Farm and then moved to Twin Elms on Marston Lane. He served in the Air Force.

John (Jack) Wintersgill

He was born on 3rd August 1924, and on the 1939 Register he was working as an apprentice at an aircraft factory. John's father (John) served in WW1.