

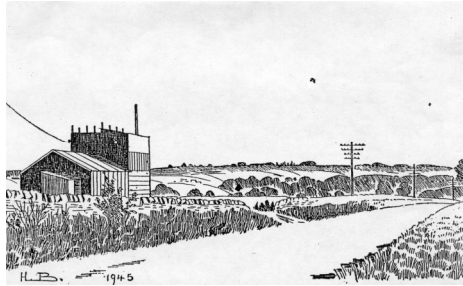
## Preparing for Invasion

*Some snapshots of life in WW2 provided by Claire Ferris.*

It is possible that one day soon a few or many Germans may land in the neighbourhood of your home. The Home Guard are ready to protect you, but they cannot do this if you do not act according to orders.

You have been told to stay put. This means stay indoors. Don't come out to fetch your children. It is far better to tell them that when they hear the church bells, or see men with guns, to come home *at once* by footpaths or hedges.

Anyone on the roads or in the fields may be shot, but bullets won't go through the walls of your house. Keep away from windows and, if the firing is near, lie on the floor. If a German comes to your door, he hasn't come to attack you, but to get food or to find out the way. Be polite; he is armed and you are not. Don't say "I



Wartime Observation Post, Shipton  
Sketch by Hope Bourne

refuse to tell you the way", but tell him the wrong way without hesitating, and say he had better ask again soon. If you have a chance, send a sensible child out to warn a neighbour or the

nearest Home Guard post. Don't spread rumours and don't listen to rumours. It is a well-known German trick to get one of their spies to run through a village shouting 'They're coming!' This is the time to STAY PUT. The Germans haven't landed to capture our village, but to get to one of the aerodromes or a large town, or to blow up the railway.

### LATYMER

#### O.C. Shipton and Ascott Home Guard

Shipton Lodge September 1940

### Instructions to Home Guard

If away from home after 7pm fix notice to door or leave word where you can be found. If 'called up', bring to the Alarm Post a rifle or other fire-arm and ammunition (if any), armband, gas mask, some food.

### Government Plans for Evacuees

Arrangements provide for the dispersal from crowded towns where the results of air attack would be most serious. Priority will be given to children, and school children will, as far as possible, be moved school by school, accompanied by their teachers. Homes are to be found for them in the districts to which they are to be taken. Householders who provide such homes will be paid by the Government at

the rate of 10s 6d a week where one child is taken and 8s 6d a week for each child where more than one child is taken.

Children under school age will be accompanied by their mothers. In these cases the householder will only be asked to provide lodging, not board, and payment will be made of 5s a week for each adult and 3s a week for each child.